the GORBALS VIEW

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THE GORBALS VIEW MAY 1968

A Monthly Magazine for Gorbals, Govanhill, Hutchesontown & Kingston.

CONTENTS:

EDITORIAL	Page 1
NEWS FROM GOVANHILL	2
FITBA DAFT PETER	3
HUTCHESONTOWN WARD NEWS	3
MISS MAY	4
"GEHENNA"	5
FIRE, POLICE, AMBULANCE! (Part 2)	6
FASHION PAGE	7
VOTE, 1968	8
ADVERTISEMENT	9
YOUR VIEW!	10 and 11
INDIAN AND PAKISTANI PAGE	12
ADVERTISEMENT	13
NEW AMENITIES IN HUTCHESONTOWN	13
REVIEW	14
THE "GORBALS' VIEW" OF HUMAN RIGHTS	14
BARBARA'S PAGE	15
ADVERTISEMENTS	16

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Cover photograph:- Change and Decay.
(By John Anderson, taken from railway tower in Gushetfaulds, by courtesy of British Rail.)

T/GOR/42/11/1

OUR CHOICE.

Last May, and again last October, "The Gorbals View" supported no one party at the local elections. And during the thirteen months of our existence, we have not hesitated to criticise the Labour controlled Corporation of Glasgow.

Now, after a lot of thought, we feel it right to encourage our readers, quite publicly, to vote Labour this month. And not only to *vote* Labour, but to make democratic socialism, for which the Labour Party stands, *work* in this city of ours for the benefit of the whole community.

Labour has a bad press. In fact, to be truthful, it has a hostile press. The national papers, on the whole, are anti-socialist, and do not hesitate to attack Labour when they get the slightest chance. But must we accept this hostile view of Labour? Of course Labour has made mistakes - what men don't? But we should be fair. Under Labour, much has happened in this old, crumbling city of ours for which all of us can be very thankful. 150,000 houses - a vast and yet carefully prepared Comprehensive Development Scheme for the centre of the city - ring roads - schools - a magnificent new Airport - the rebate scheme for rents and rates - the list of solid achievements is not exactly unimpressive when you look at it.

But more than that. Labour does not just stand for doing things - it also represents an attitude, an approach, almost a way of life. A recent survey of Labour voters in England showed, among other things, that they tended to have more of a social conscience, and generally to be more caring about others, than those voting for other parties. This is an indication of what we believe to be the truth about socialism.

Of course socialism must be made to work. "The price of freedom", as we have said before on this page, "is eternal vigilance." So long as we think our public and political duty is done when we go and vote, then we are living in a fools' paradise. But we firmly believe that the people of Glasgow are both willing and able to take their destiny into their own hands - and we also believe that this can best be done under the Labour Party, through democratic socialism.

Immigrants.

We are delighted to see that Mr. Heath, for whatever reasons, has sacked Enoch Powell from the Shadow Cabinet. The people of Gorbals firmly reject his racist views, and reiterate their welcome to all immigrants - Irish, Pakistani, or of whatever nationality they be.

NEWS FROM GOVANHILL.

The storm damage of January 15th. is presenting many problems to thousands of people in Glasgow and elsewhere. Not all of them are centred on the shortage of labour to repair the damage, which Corporation officials estimate will not be completed until September of this year or later.

The problem which is worrying most people is £.s.d. I understand that a circular has been issued to all local authorities in Scotland, dated 15th.March, outlining the assistance the Government is prepared to give to help repair damage caused by the storm. The following is an excerpt from the circular:

"Any deficit falling on local authorities as a result of repairs to property will attract a special 75% Government grant."

If this is to be the extent of Government aid, then the people who will suffer most in this situation are the owner-occupiers, the majority of whom are finding it difficult enough facing mortgage payments and other expenses. Here is what the circular states about them:

"This deficit (25% - J.B.) *will rise in cases particularly of owner-occupiers, in which to recover the whole cost of the repair would cause hardship, even if the recovery were spread over a period of years. It is for the local authority, in the light of all the circumstances of each case, to decide the actual amount to be recovered from the owner."*

Quite a lot of damage has been caused in our area, and to add to the existing worries of our local owner-occupiers, disturbing stories are circulating of grossly excessive estimates for repairs being submitted by certain contractors. If any of these stories are true - and I am assured that they are - then the responsibility for protecting ALL householders, Corporation, privately owned, or owner-occupier, rests with our Council officials. No firm, small or large, must be allowed to make excess profit in this emergency.

The total cost of the bill for repairs in Glasgow cannot of course be accurately estimated, but everyone knows it will be enormous. Will we as citizens, and our representatives in Glasgow Town Council, agree that a Government grant of 75% is adequate? I sincerely hope not!

To face a 25% deficit on storm repairs will mean a steep increase in Rates, already at too high a figure. We all have a responsibility on this matter. How about it -you Tenants Associations, Ward Committees, Owner-Occupier Associations, Trade Union Branches and Political Parties? 100% Government Grant for Storm Damage Repairs. A Special Corporation Storm Damage Committee to vet closely all estimates and accounts for the repairs. Surely this is needed?

* * * * * * *

Toryglen may not be a swinging community, but at least the inhabitants are venturesome!

In the new Queens' Park School, the Adult Education Classes are alive with activity. There are classes on Hostess Cooking and Woodwork; the Woodwork class is mixed, and I am told that some of the ladies are able to display Continental Headboards to envious eyes! Basketball and Swimming are catered for to include juveniles.

And in Toryglen Junior School there is a Keep Fit Class, a Car Maintenance Class, and Dramatic Groups.

Not bad for Toryglen!

* * * * * * * *

Our son Alan was married on March 23rd, to a bonny Gorbals lass, Margaret Espie. Would it be thought presumptuous of me to wish them, on your behalf, all that's best?

John Beacham.

FITBA DAFT PETER!

(Story: by young reporters Thomas McGurn and Brian McGill. Photograph: by staff photographer John Anderson.)

This is a story of a boy who is, like most other boys, football daft. The only difference with PETER McCLUSKEY, of 71 Thistle Street, is that he plays football on crutches!

Peter has been on crutches for 2½ years. It was only when his father noticed him limping at a football match, that it was discovered that he had a disease in his hip bone.

He spent 2 years in Philipshill Hospital, and expects to spend at least another year on crutches before he is able to walk - and play - normally. At first the doctors suspected that he would be a cripple all his life: but a recent X-Ray showed that a new bone is growing - so he will eventually be well again.

Peter still attends school - although he is allowed to come late - and he has to stay in class at play time, for obvious reasons. Peter's ambition, however, is not deterred by his disease - for he hopes to play football one day - for Celtic!

HUTCHESONTOWN WARD NEWS.

The Ward Committee A.G.M. was held last month in Hayfield Street School.

During the meeting, when the work of the Ward was being discussed, Councillor McCrossan, who was addressing the meeting, reported on the Housing situation in Hutchesontown. He reported that much progress had been made in the past year, and that further progress was hoped for in the year ahead.

Speaking of the Storm damage, he referred to the temporary repairs that had been made to many houses. In the discussion that followed, criticism was voiced against some private owners, who had taken little or no action.

Ward Secretary Joe Vincent said after the meeting: "We felt the meeting was highly successful. We gained some new members and we hope that we shall have more, because there are a great many problems in Hutchesontown that require every citizen in the Ward to give more power and strength to its work."

Four-Ways Debate.

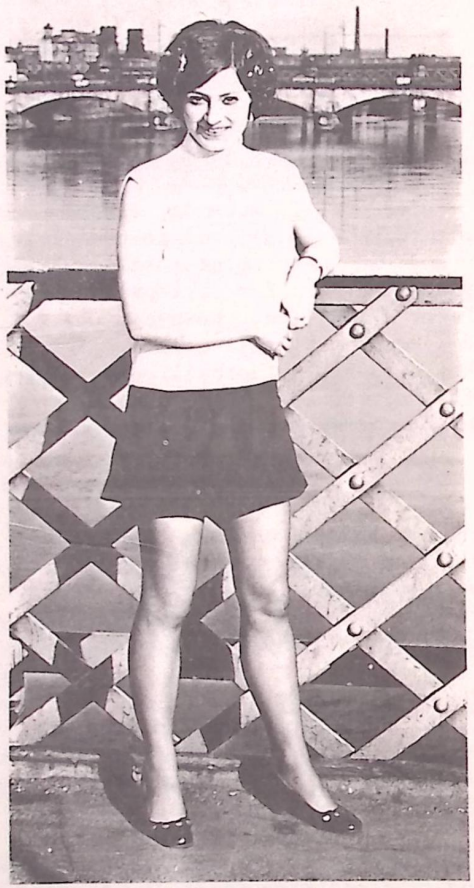
The four candidates for the May local elections were given a platform by the Tenants Association in Hayfield School on April 22nd.

It was a very well attendedand lively meeting, with much real and critical discussion - thereby proving to all that politics in Hutchesontown is by no means a dead subject. The four candidates each spoke to their case; the S.N.P. candidate especially evoking lively reaction from the audience.

Altogether a very worthwhile meeting - and certainly the idea is worth copying elsewhere.

MISS MAY

MARISA MacDONALD, 19 years of age and our feature girl for this month, lives at 17 Garturk Street, Govanhill, and works as a comptometer operator in Wm.Collins and Sons Ltd. (the publishers).



Marisa was Captain of Calder St. School, and has long been a regular attender at the Calder Street Baths. No small wonder she was Swimming Captain at School for two years.

Mr.MacDonald, who works with the Corporation as an electrical engineer, is a Scotsman; but Marisa takes her good looks from her mother, who comes from Spilembergo in Northern Italy. Her brother Kenny plays football for Crossroads Youth Club in Gorbals.

Marisa would rather stay in Govanhill than in one of the new schemes, because she feels that out there, there would be nothing for teenagers to do, and also there would be far too much travelling. Her view is that the young people in the schemes are bored, and that this is why there are so many gangs and so much trouble.

The night of the great storm is still very fresh in Marisa's memory. Govanhill was one of the worst hit areas in Glasgow, and Marisa's building suffered some damage in the form of slates being blown clean off the roof.

On the coming Council Elections, Marisa's comment is: "I'm sorry I'm under age, because I'd really like to vote for Geoff Shaw, our local Labour candidate."

Marisa's beautiful navy blue mini is a "culotte". And she says that her gorgeous curly hairstyle is no bother once you get the hang of it.

(Interview: Helen Anderson. Photograph: John Anderson.)

'gehenna'

(Last month, we published the opening verses of a long descriptive poem about old Gorbals, written by Harry Bryce, an old Gorbalonian himself.

We have since received from Mr. Bryce the rest of the poem. So we are now in the happy position of being able to share the whole of this work with our readers. This we intend to do, in sections. This month, therefore, we are very pleased to publish the first section of "Gehenna".)

No myth my little fears
  Nor good earth smell:
At nightfall,
  Pig iron tongues leapt
To lick the cindered sky,
The overcast vibrated
  Molten sound;
High threatening towers
Of Dixon Blazes
Belched putrid fumes,
Aglow and slowly burning;
Spreading vile vapours
Over pulsating tenement
  Tombs of the poor,
And sacrificed the children
To Moloch,
  Implacable
God of the Gorbals
  And Gehenna.

On Saturdays of noise
Aroma of orange peel,
Pitched high from balconies
Into sweet disinfected pits
Of laughter:
  Laurel and Hardy
Karlaff and Charlie Chase,
Hoot Gibson and Buck Jones
Thundering thru' the galloping
pouny
The buzzing Beas;
E-ees and Paragon,
The darkened Palace;
  Saw Lugosi's sneer,
And terror mask of Boffe
Stiff Keaton; Chaplin's
  Modern Times;
With tail spin Tommy
Hovering; the poised grenade
  Don't miss episode ten!
  Death by fire!

Each barefoot summer
An arid tang of boiling tar,
Poured over patched up
Camden Street;
Where vortices of colour
Spun crazily into gutters;
And lucky middens raked
In eager back court treks,
Where Eldorado lay
Beneath the rubbled heaps
Of trash; warped boxes held
Soured dust of gold mine bars;
Sharp broken plate
Became the real exchange,
Solid pieces of eight
Never clinked nor shone
So bright;
  Red damp pipe clay
On scoured stairs,
Cold hard brass doorknobs
Tied stealthily;
Kick door! run fast!
Wild shrieks of rage
Pursuing.

South side of the river;
Where sober derelicts
Threw themselves into the dark
Swift swollen waters;
Long terrible crowds
Thronging the parapets,
Curiously indifferent
As the bloated corpse
Was raised a station higher
By soiled rope;
Up the heavy crosswood beams
Of oil lapped Broomielaw;
While excitedly we yelled
"There's a man in the Clyde!"
South side of the river.

(Continued next month.)

(See also "YOUR VIEW" in this issue)

FIRE! POLICE! ambulance!

(The second, and final instalment of our article on Glasgow's Fire Service and Centre Street Fire Station.)

Special Service calls are also part of the fireman's job. Drivers trapped after road accidents, spilt acids or chemicals to be hosed away escaping ammonia fumes, and jammed lifts are the most usual cases. Three crews recently had the important job of a fourteen day stint of assisting with house repair work after the Storm, especially with clearing roofs and fixing tarpaulins. Dry weather in early March rendered these tarpaulins a fire risk in themselves, and sparks falling from chimneys onto them occasionally started small roof fires.

Another aspect of the men's job is to inspect buildings in their area, to ensure that water supplies gas and electricity master switches and all stairways are easily accessible and known to the men, so that if fire did break out in the building it could be dealt with by them in the best possible way.

As part of the job, the firemen attend several courses on various aspects of firefighting, to ensure that the most modern techniques are used where available. These courses vary in length from full-time college courses of three or four months duration for the more senior men, to week-long or single day courses on one particular aspect of the job for less experienced men.

One type of fire call which all the men dislike, and should never have to waste their time attending is the malicious fire hoax. These are far too frequent, both from children *and* adults, and because each call has to be attended just *in case*, if a "bona fide" call is received while the appliances are out at a hoax, time is wasted and even a life may be endangered because it took these extra minutes for the brigade to come.

There is little that the fire brigade can do to stop these incidents. It's up to each responsible individual to ensure that he, or she, respects the great service done by these men for the whole community.

Although Centre Street Station was built in the day of the horse-drawn appliance the officers of today are quite satisfied that the building is still adequate for present day needs. No plan for a new station, for example in the new Gorbals, has reached the Divisional Officer's ears: so the Southern Station of Glasgow's Fire Service will remain to serve the community at 108 Centre Street, C.5., for some time to come.

(Story: Godfrey Stone.
Photograph: John Anderson.)

(See also letter in "YOUR VIEW.")

FASHION PAGE *by Helen Anderson.*

"APRIL SHOWERS BRING FORTH MAY FLOWERS. . . . . ."

Oh for a dry summer - but I think unfortunately that May will have its share of showers too!

So - this month, we illustrate raincoats for the family - sure to keep the youngsters dry, and the girls glamorous.

Nowadays, we have a wide selection of gaily coloured raincoats to choose from in the shops. We have chosen these three lovely practical outfits from C.& A.'s, in Argyle Street.

Brian Gray is wearing a Royal blue P.V.C. jacket, hat, and pinafore trousers, reduced price 20/-.

Seana Ferns models a P.V.C. zip front coat and sou'wester hat in powder blue, at 42/-.

Lindsey Martin chose to wear this good quality princess line canvas coat in cream, with zip front, buttoned cuff, and buttoned-down collar, priced at £5. 5. 0., but well worth the money.

C.& A.'s have a wide variety of styles, colours and prices. So - be dry *and* pretty this summer!

vote 1968

A "GORBALS VIEW" RAPID GUIDE TO YOUR CANDIDATES AND POLLING PLACES IN THIS MONTH'S COUNCIL ELECTIONS, IN THE FOUR WARDS.

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

CANDIDATES.

HUTCHESONTOWN (25th.) WARD.

BURNS, Donald	*Communist*
McCROSSAN, John J.	*Labour*
McMANUS, Michael	*S.N.P.*
MOORE, Thomas M.	*Progressive*

GORBALS (26th.) WARD.

BIGGAM, Thomas	*Communist*
EWING, Alexander	*S.N.P.*
LINDSAY, William	*Labour*
VESEY, Hylda-A.	*Conservative*

KINGSTON (27th.) WARD.

DEVITT, Patrick	*Communist*
JOHNSTON, William	*Conservative*
McLEAN, George	*S.N.P.*
REILLY, Matthew	*Labour*

GOVANHILL (35th.) WARD.

CAMPBELL, Calum	*Communist*
MILLER, Unity	*S.N.P.*
SHAW, Geoffrey M.	*Labour*
WOOD, Derek	*Conservative*

POLLING PLACES.

HUTCHESONTOWN (25th.) WARD.

Primary School, 102 Wolseley St.
St.Bonaventure's School, 19 Alice St
Hayfield School, 164 Moffat St.
Education Dept., 192 Camden St.

GORBALS (26th.) WARD.

Adelphi School, 12 Commercial Rd.
Blackfriars School, Hutcheson Sq.
Primary School, 129 Abbotsford Pl.
St.John's School, 39 Portugal St.

KINGSTON (27th.) WARD.

St.John's School, 140 Wallace St.
Primary School, 225 Scotland St.
Our Lady & St.Margaret's School, 136 Stanley St.
Our Lady & St.Margaret's School, 50 Admiral St.

GOVANHILL (35th.) WARD.

Holy Cross School, 6 Daisy St.
Victoria School, Batson St.
Primary School, 27 Annette St.
Holy Cross School, 316 Calder St.
St.Brigid's School, 4 Glenmore Ave.

VOTING TAKES PLACE ON TUESDAY, MAY 7th., BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 8 A.M. AND 9 P.M.

BE SURE AND USE YOUR VOTE!

Advertisement.

LINDSAY, William
GORBALS.

REILLY, Matthew
KINGSTON.

vote
LABOUR
May 7

GOVANHILL.
SHAW, Geoffrey M.

HUTCHESONTOWN.
McCROSSAN, John J.

Published by the Glasgow City Labour Party.

YOUR VIEW!

FIRE APPLIANCES AND THE LAW

(From an official of the Fire Brigades Union.)

Dear Sir,

I read with interest your article on the Fire Service in the April edition of your magazine. Whilst I would commend the article, I must take issue with you on one particular part of it, namely the legal position of fire appliances proceeding to fires.

.....To say that a fire appliance may proceed through a traffic signal at RED but "with caution" is completely wrong. As a trade union official I have had to deal with many cases where fire service drivers have proceeded with caution through the lights at RED and have been charged by the police with violation of the road traffic act, either because they have been involved in an accident or have caused an accident. At the moment this matter is subject of examination by a special sub-committee of the fire service Advisory body. The view of the Fire Brigades Union is that fire service drivers should and must obey the law, for road users must be protected.

.....I, and my Union, appreciate that with traffic as it is, especially in cities, there is a problem, but by suggesting that fire service drivers can break the law is no solution to the problem. When one considers that it is now within capability of man to place someone on the moon, surely it is not beyond our imagination and capability to devise a device which, when mounted on a fire appliance, could when approaching traffic lights change them to green?

Yours faithfully,
W.Miller.

GORBALS DOCTORS.

112,Prospecthill Circus
Glasgow, S.2.

Dear Sir,

I was very vexed to read the letter sent in by a reader about "Gorbals Doctors" (March issue). If the reader and her friendshad gone along to Dr. P. Baird ' s surgery in Crown Street, they would have met there a Doctor they could trust.

He is dedicated to his profession never hurries his patients and is very understanding. To me -and I am sure a lot of Gorbals folk will agree - he is more than a Doctor, he is a friend.

I spent sixteen years of my married life in Gorbals, and have five healthy children, all born there. I give thanks to my Doctor for the guidance he has given me.

Yours truly,
(Mrs.)E.Steedman.

"GEHENNA".

(From the Poet, Harry Bryce.)
Dalkeith,
Midlothian.

Dear Sir,

. . . The poem "Gehenna" is my attempt to solve a problem. The last thing I wanted to do was to write a sensational kind of "No Mean City" in verse. What I'm striving for is to recapture some of the lost magic of childhood. It is one of my beliefs that a child of the slums experiences moments of joy equal to that so memorably portrayed by the country-bred Wordsworth in "Intimations of immortality on recollections of early childhood." . . . .

Yours sincerely,

Harry Bryce.

BROKEN PROMISE.

12, Gilmour PLace,
Glasgow, C.5.

Dear Sir,

Recently, a photographer for a Glasgow paper took a picture of Peter McCluskey (see the article "FITBA DAFT PETER" in this issue) and eight of his pals playing football, and also wrote a half page story on him. The article and photograph were eventually published in the paper.

The photographer gave Peter a 2/6 piece, and his pals a 2/6 piece between them. They also promised Peter a pair of football boots for his Christmas. The boots did not arrive - and after enquiries, the paper said that they knew nothing about it.

What a way to treat a kid!

Yours sincerely,
T.McGurn.

SUB-LETTING IN HUTCHESONTOWN.

768, Rutherglen Rd.
Glasgow, C.5.

Dear Sir,

The re-development of Gorbals has created a number of problems, one of which is the subletting of private houses. These houses are let four or five times a year, and each tenant who comes in pays more than the last.

I have been told that people are paying as much as £3.0.0. a week for Room and Kitchen with outside W.C., poor furniture and the barest of bedding. One person told me that the rate was cheap in comparison with others she had written for through the press.

I am told that there is no legislation to stop this racket, only the Rent Appeals Court. But I have raised this matter time and again with the Public Health Dept., who are surely failing in their duties when they allow whole families to live in one room without let or hindrance.

It seems to me that the Public Health Dept. either requires extra staff, or a general shake-up from its Rip-van-Winkle slumber.

Yours faithfully,
Joe Vincent.

(Ed. "The recent Rent Act legislated for the setting up of Rent Tribunals to control this sort of thing. If a tenant, either in a let or a sub-let property, feels he is being charged too much, he can go immediately to the Rent Tribunal, simply by applying to the Rent Officer at 70 Wellington Street. This Tribunal is a very informal affair - you don't need a lawyer to get you through it! As soon as you have appealed to the Tribunal, you get an automatic 3-months protection of tenancy - which means that you cannot be evicted from your house for that period. And after that you can only be evicted with a month's notice, followed by a Sheriff Court Order.

At the hearing of the Tribunal , you will in all probability get your rent reduced. It's even better if a whole close goes together to the Tribunal, not just isolated families. We have had some experience of this Tribunal already in Gorbals, and in all cases the Tribunal has decided in the tenants favour.

I agree that this doesn't answer the health question - and we're looking into this one. Meanwhile , however, don't hesitate to use the legislation provided - that's what it's there for - and it works!)

Indian & Pakistani Page

b.a. maan

(In this, the second last in the current series of articles on the history of the Indian and Pakistani community in Glasgow, Mr. Maan looks at the growth of immigrants to this country up to 1962, and the background to this influx as it affects Glasgow.)

The reason for the great influx of immigrants from India and Pakistan in the late '50's was clearly the post war boom in prosperity in this country. As the boom strengthened, so the flow of immigrants increased. The immigrants who were here wrote of their good fortune to their friends and relations. So the word spread in India and Pakistan about the great opportunities which existed here in Britain. The friends and relations, encouraged by these reports, ventured over to see for themselves. The process gained momentum and continued unabated, until the Immigration Bill put an end to it in 1962.

Though the bulk of immigrants to this country came between 1958 and 1962, Glasgow during this period was not faced with a large number of newcomers. We had about 500 Indians and Pakistanis in Glasgow until 1953, and this number had increased to about 2000 by 1958. In 1962, Glasgow had about 3000 Indians and Pakistanis, and this increase was not due so much to the general influx as to the arrival of the families of many of the immigrants already here.

That Glasgow did not get its share of the influx was due to the simple economic fact of supply and demand. The demand for unskilled labour here was not as great as it was in the Midlands and the South of England, so the immigrants did not head for Glasgow. The distance from London, Birmingham and Bradford was another factor which discouraged the immigrants from coming to far off Glasgow.

Glasgow did in fact need immigrants, but only those who were proficient in the English language, to man the transport undertaking. So only those immigrants came to Glasgow who had sufficient qualifications for this particular job- or else wanted to set up their own business here. This barrier proved to be a blessing for the Indian and Pakistani communities in general, and for Glasgow in particular.

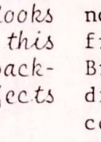
The immigrant community benefitted by being small, and thus better organised; and the fact of its members being educated, well mannered and well behaved made a far better impression on the host community, than their compatriots in other parts of this country.

And the City of Glasgow benefitted by acquiring the labour force it needed most, to the extent it needed it, and at the same time avoiding many social and racial problems which can accompany or follow the coloured immigrant.

Thus the size, texture, and quality of the immigrants in Glasgow is perhaps the most important factor in helping to maintain the most cordial relations between the immigrants and the local people in the whole of the United Kingdom.

VOTE

EWING



Scottish National Party

On Tuesday 7th May

Think! Are you electing a spokesman to George Square to speak on your behalf or electing a party hack whose loyalty lies in London. What hope can you have in electing councillors who pay lip-service to your needs while actively stifling any genuine attempt to carry out the major reforms needed if our people are to enjoy even the basic necessities of life. Glasgow is a city we love but it would not be disloyal to say that it is a city which has many features of which we cannot be proud. Let's put an end to indifference and vote for Scotland and Gorbals,

Put Gorbals first, vote SNP

ADVERTISEMENT

Election Agent, C. McCarthy, 214 Cumberland St.

NEW AMENITIES IN HUTCHESONTOWN.

We have received the following information concerning amenities in Hutchesontown from the Hutcheson - town Tenants Association. The information was supplied to them by Baillie John Mains at their meeting on February 25th. We are sure the details provided here will be of interest to many of our readers.

1. Public Library.

The Oxford Street Library will serve both Laurieston and Hutchesontown. The McNeil Street Library in Hutchesontown is to be converted into a Day Nursery, with outdoor play space.

2. Health Centre.

A large Health Centre is to be built on a site on the East side of Camden Street, between Rutherglen Road and Erroll Street. Clearance of this site will begin either this year or next, and it is estimated that the Centre should be completed around 1972/73.

3. Provisions for the Elderly.

Meeting rooms are to be provided in the Florence Street area. There is also to be a Community Centre built on Rutherglen Road, opposite the old graveyard - this to be carried out in the period 1971/75.

4. Public Houses.

Nine out of the original 48 public houses in Hutchesontown are to be relocated. 3 will be in the Commercial Centre, one in the Matthews Devpt. north of Ballater St., one near the Clyde, and one in the multi-story S.S.H.A. Devpt. (already occupied). The remaining three will be in the area west of Camden St.

REVIEW.

"A DEAR GREEN PLACE"
by Archie Hinds.
(Arrow Paperbacks: 3/6d.)

This is a working-class novel of a special kind - immediately so for us because of its Glasgow setting, but it is more than that.

A young man with problems, wanting something more than the life he has - we have read about that before. We have even had Scottish examples - most recently *"A Green Tree in Gedde"* by Allan Sharp, easily confused with this book because of its title, and the acclaim both have received.

Archie Hinds' hero is not the working class climber of *"Room at the Top"*. He wants to write, but this is not just another story of a poor young writer's struggle.

It is about self-doubt. As he becomes certain of his talent, he doubts if he is right to use it. For writing counts as "art", and he cannot feel that art has any place in life.

He may describe experiences faithfully and meaningfully, but something spoils it for him. He is interested in the past, his family, his city - and yet never can be satisfied with his own telling of it.

In the end his book is unwritten and his dilemma unresolved.

What prevents him from doing that which, earlier, he was certain he wanted to do? Something in himself, or some mocking, spoilsport demon that lives in the pocket of everyone who is poor, city-born and Scottish?

Moyna Gardner.

THE "GORBALS' VIEW" OF HUMAN RIGHTS.

Such was the ambitious title of the "Human Rights" Concert given in the old school in Nicholson St on the evening of Easter Sunday - an appropriate day to remind us all that this year is "Human Rights" Year.

The Concert, attended by about 50 people, was introduced and directed by the Rev.David Rice, an American Negro Baptist minister.

Assisting him in the production were Alec Davison, from Jordanhill College of Education, and the Rev. Douglas Galbraith, together with Miss Hilary Henry.

The main part of the concert was devoted to the celebration of Human Rights in song. The Crossroads Youth Club members provided a very lusty and tuneful choir - and included *Alec Burke, Tommy Tolan, Martin Faye* (who also played the guitar), *Paul Gallagher, Tony Stucksis, Frankie McManus, Hugo and Michael Collum, Alec Crossan, John Crossley and Allan Gillan.* Nick and Alan, two guest folk singers, also provided some rousing - and thought-provoking - entertainment.

Two films were shown: "The Toy-maker", about two puppets who, because they were painted different ways, thought therefore that they were different, and therefore that they were enemies, until they were made to see that they were both the creation of the same maker; and "Rubbish People", about a group of tenants in London who formed themselves into an Association to get their rights from the landlords.

Together with a small skit and some interesting role-play, this formed the content of the evening. Altogether, a very worthwhile enterprise, well-planned and prepared for - a pity that it was seen and enjoyed by such a small number of people.

barbara's page.

Ever had to feed a hungry mob on the day before pay-day? When the funds are hitting rock-bottom? I daresay a lot of readers have had to face this problem at one time or another. So I asked a friend, who is a wizard at this type of thing, for her advice. The result was the following three recipes, all costing well under 5/-d, and feeding (she swears) 3 adults and 6 children. Besides being cheap, they are also nourishing and tasty.

1. LENTIL SOUP.

2 oz. bacon	*5½d.*
(a good many shops sell streaky bacon at 11d. per 1/4 lb.)	
1 lb. lentils	*1.10d.*
2 large onions, chopped	*6d.*
salt and pepper to taste.	

Simmer these ingredients for at least an hour in 2.1/4 quarts of water - the longer you cook it, the better, and reheating seems to improve it even more.

2. SPAGHETTI BOLOGNAISE

½ lb. mince	2. 4d.
(there is apparently one shop where you can get it at 2/10d. per lb. - but you may not be able to track it down!)	
1 teaspoon flour	
2 onions (chopped finely)	6d.
¾ lb. spaghetti	1. 6d.
1 oxo cube	2½d.
2 spoonfuls tomato sauce	1d.
	4. 7½d.

Cook the spaghetti in boiling salted water for ten minutes, stirring frequently to begin with. Fry the floured mince and chopped onions together until the onions are cooked. Add the oxo cube and enough hot water to make a thickish gravy. At the last minute add two spoonfuls of tomato sauce, season to taste, and mix with drained spaghetti. Serve piping hot.

3. CORNED BEEF STOVIES.

¼ lb. corned beef	1. 3d
¼ stone potatoes	1. 3
onions (2 or 3)	6d. or 7
oxo cube	2½
1 oz. marg. or bacon fat	1½
	3. 4d

Peel and dice the potatoes. Melt the fat in a thick saucepan with a well-fitting lid. Cook on a low heat for 20 minutes or so. Add the oxo cube dissolved in a cupful of hot water, with the corned beef, shredded. Stir until thoroughly mixed.

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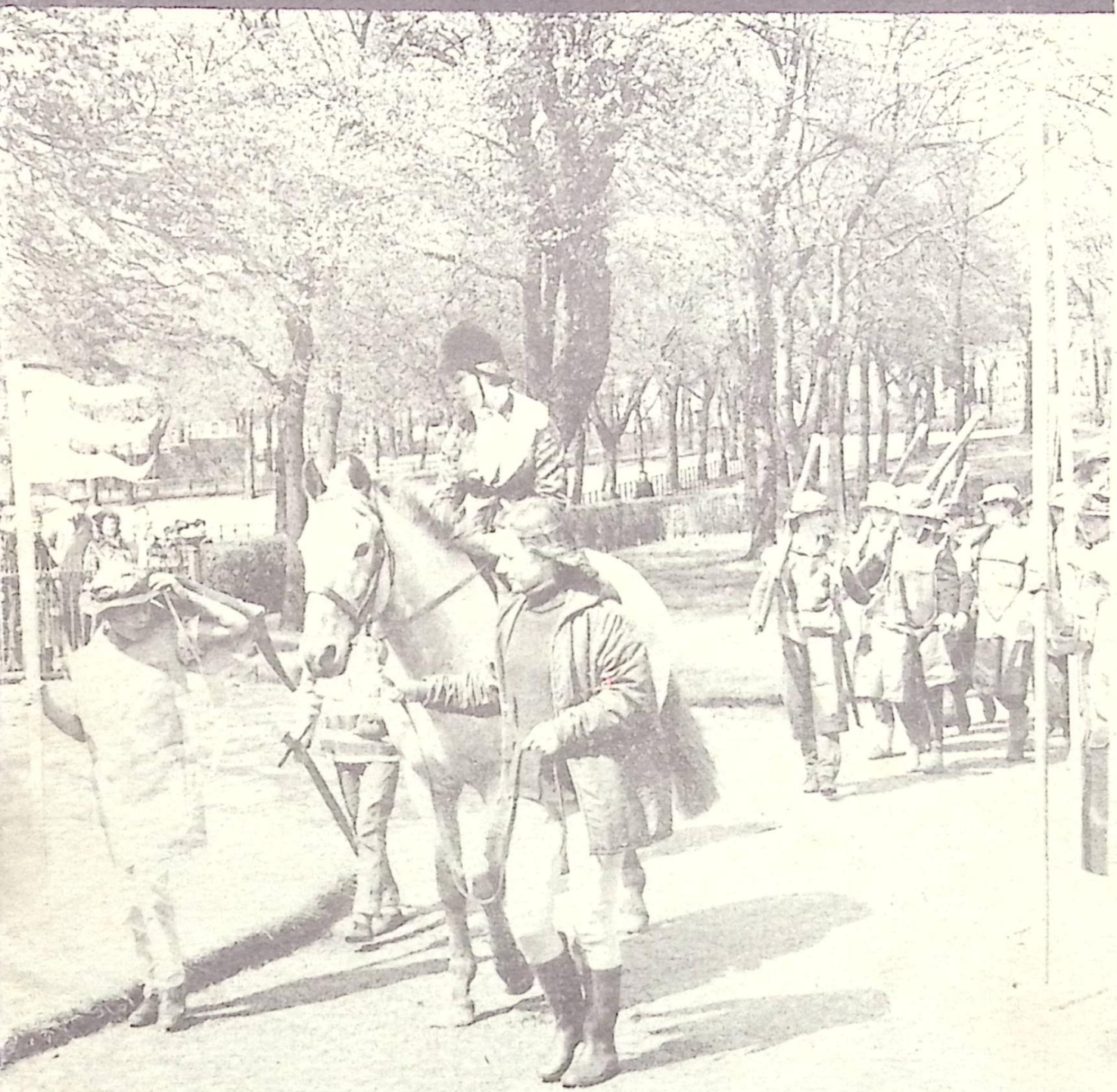

JUNE 1968 6d

THE GORBALS VIEW JUNE 1968

A Monthly Magazine for Gorbals, Govanhill, Hutchesontown & Kingston.

CONTENTS:

EDITORIAL	1
LETTER FROM GOVANHILL	2
180,000 KILLED	3
MISS JUNE	4
GEHENNA (Part Two)	5
POLICE! Fire! Ambulance!	6 & 7
SPRING PHOTO COMPETITION - RESULTS	8 & 9
YOUR VIEW!	10
FASHION - Clothes for Play at Home and Away.	11
INDIAN AND PAKISTANI PAGE	12
REVIEW	13
THE BATTLE OF LANGSIDE	14
BARBARA's PAGE	15 & 16

Cover Photograph: "The Queen's Men", by John Anderson.
(See article "The Battle of Langside")

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OPINION

THE NEW BROOM....?

The results of the recent local elections in Glasgow open the way for what should be an interesting, and active, political year.

There is no doubt that the S.N.P. have drawn to them a great deal of support in this city. It remainsto be seen whether this support is justified. The vital question, of course, is whether the Nationalists are socialist, conservative, liberal or just a mixture of all three. We don't presumably want independence for Glasgow - we want a better and a more humane and just local government. The Gorbals View adheres to its belief that what we need is not less but more socialism, in order that this end might be achieved.

It is early days yet to judge the S.N.P. Councillors, though already there are indications that some of them had not bargained for the amount of hard work involved in looking after the day to day problems of a Ward. Many a Councillor has lost popularity not because of his policies but because he failed to attend to the local cases of housing, lights, drainage, etc.

At least we welcome the S.N.P. proposal of a City Ombudsman to see that people get fair treatment from the officials of State or City. Many Labour Councillors already fav-our such an appointment, and it is to be hoped that such a proposal will get through the Corporation. But of course the best answer lies in an improvement on the part of officials themselves. Gorbals people are often "treated like dirt"-though a few can give as good as they get! But we are particularly glad to see the great improvement in the HOUSING DEPARTMENT in the past year since the appointment of a new Housing Manager. And we are especially glad to pay tribute to one man who has worked incessantly since the January storm, and whose work has apparently gone un-noticed. We refer to Mr. Wray, the head of the Sanitary Department. Not all officials are baddies!

One of the bye-products of the growth of a thrid political party is that all the parties need to pay a lot more attention during elections to publicity. Strictly speaking, the only legal way to display a poster of the "VOTE, VOTE VOTE FOR ME" variety, is to hire space on the hoardings erected by the big publicity firms. But this costs a lot of money, and in Glasgow at any rate the custom of putting up posters in empty shops, etc, has usually been overlooked by the Police. This year we noticed a big increase in the number of posters put up not only on the empty shops and the boarded-up windows, but also on the walls of tenements, on ra-lway bridges, etc., and even on the big hoardings themselves. All part of the political game, maybe, and, of course, no prosecutions. But it is little wonder that the spray-gun vandals feel that their particular method of disfiguring the city is not all that bad. And we understand that a young person putting up a poster for C.N.D. just two weeks ago was charged by the police!

Justice?

LETTER FROM GOVANHILL

by John Beacham.

There is nothing so interesting as people!

I am sure, like myself, some of you when on a bus or a train have looked at a person, and wondered what he or she worked at? Were they married or single? Were they happy? And so on. And then you let your thoughts fill in the answers.

Even if you have not played this particular game, you still have thoughts about people, and these thoughts are very important.

All our thoughts and ideas are influenced by our contact with people, by the kind of books and newspapers we read, by what we see and hear on Television and Radio. The opinions we express are governed by these factors. But if we put forward an opinion on an important matter, say like Immigration, without examining all aspects of the question, then our opinion most likely will be prejudiced and imbalanced, and could cause immeasurable harm to a large number of people.

Take the outrageous speech of Mr. Enoch Powell, and the reaction it set up! Even our own M.P. Mr.Edward Taylor decribed it as a "courageous" speech! If he had used the same adjective as I have in describing the speech, he would have stood more chance of earning the respect of all who hate intolerance.

Those who rushed to support Powell could not advance a reasoned case for doing so. The arguments put forward about unemployment, housing shortage and overcrowded classrooms are not sound at all, as all these problems existed long before our coloured immigrants came to live here in appreciable numbers.

Why did Powell receive the support he did? Although I do not accept for a moment that a majority of the people back his views, I believe that some of the prejudice aroused goes back to our past colonial history, when we were encouraged to look on our coloured brothers as in some mysterious way inferior to our selves.

Some of it was caused because many people are simply afraid of anything that is different, and dark skin being different from light skin arouses a kind of fear and distrust in some minds.

Some of it was unfortunately due to outbursts from people who are out and out racialists, who hate all coloured people. Their passions are roused in the same manner as were the pass,ons of the German people, when Hitler ranted against the Jews and ultimately led to the horror of the extermination of six million Jewish people.

In face of this, I am thankful for the new Immigration Act - and I hope to see it strengthened, to make racial discrimination a criminal offence.

Well done, the young mothers who successfully conducted a campaign to have two intakes per year in Primary Schools instead of one. It proves that you don't require experience to carry through a campaign. If your cause is right, go in fight-ing! The young mothers referred to had never taken part in any such venture before. Victory in their first attempt! Smashing! Would that I in my time had been so lucky!

Crosshill Owner-Occupiers Assoc. held their first A.G.M. on May 13 in Annette St.School. I understand there is a growing interest in the Association, brought about no doubt by the damage caused by January's storm.

180,000 killed

Probably the most distinguished visitor to Glasgow this year came and went last month, with very little notice from the dailies.

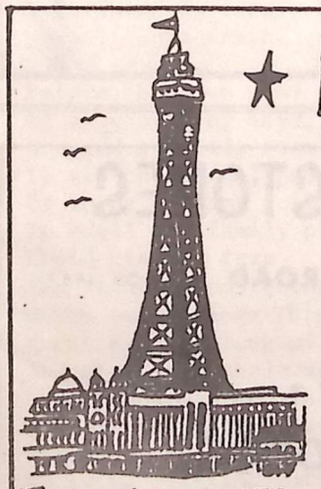
I'm referring to Mr.Masashi Nii who visited the "Peacecotheque " Peace Exhibition organised by the Glasgow Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament in a shop in town during the second half of May.

Mr.Nii is a survivor of the Nuclear Bomb which killed 180,000 people at 8.15 a.m. on August 6th. 1945 - at Hiroshima. He contracted radiation sickness, however, and is now dying of it. Incredibly, he has chosen to spend the last years of his life - he is 48 - touring the world, warning people of the horror of Nuclear Warfare. Britain is the 26th country he has visited with his collection of photographs of the shambles that was Hiroshima on that summer morning 23 years ago.

CND is part of the Peace Movement whose aim is to bring publicity to bear on everyone and every sector in Britain in the cause of peace .

The Glasgow Exhibition was an attempt to open people's eyes and minds - in the firm belief that the search for peace is something that we can't leave to the politicians.

Victims of the A-Bomb on Nagasaki at 10.00 a.m., August 9, 1945. The girl lying on her side has one hour to live.



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MISS JUNE

Our feature girl for this month is ISOBEL LOGAN, of 6 Salisbury Street, Gorbals.

Isobel has lived in Gorbals all her life, but hopes to get a new house soon as her tenement is in very poor condition. Like mostof the other girls I have spoken to, Isobel would like to stay in the area, and is looking forward to having a nice new home with a modern bathroom and kitchen.

As an apprentice in the printing trade, Isobel thinks that apprentices should be better paid, andis looking happily ahead to the days when she will have more money to spend on new swinging clothes, pop records, and dancing.

Nevertheless, Isobel showssome uncertain interest in outdoor-activities, and is going camping in Scotland for her summer holidays this year. She has never been camping before, and hopes it won't be too wet!

Even though Isobel has 7 brothers and 1 sister, she is not put off and baby sits for her neighbours, except when she is out leading a gay life, swimming at the local Corporation Swimming Club, or skating at Crossmyloof Ice Rink.

Helen Anderson.

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High strung singing wires
Stretching pole to pole,
Thunderclap of trolleys
Flashing round the toll

Gehenna ..

part two of the descriptive poem of Old Gorbals, by Harry Bryce.

↑

Cluttered pawns and ragstones
Briquett dens af dross,
Intense semi circles
Grumbling pitch and toss;
Sign writers poised on ladders
Smoke swirling Camden vaults,
Revelry up-ended
Spew petrified on frost;
Opera box sash windows
As back court buskers sang,
Toatie bee-baw-babity
In Glesga' greenland slang,
Drunk Maggie ev'iy Friday
Outside McIvers store,
Pranced gyratic measures
Never danced before;
Hunchback Jack the cobbler
Informer to the law,
Crumpled under banisters
Broken neck and jaw;
Swift poetry of movement
Darting, flick of feet,
Long kerb searing dashes
Ball jugglers on the street;
Capaldi hauling block ice
Loud resounding crash,
Refreshing splinters flashing
Neapolitanic wrath.

Before the dawn wind rose
An army of tiny boys,
Dragged sleepily from bed
To sip cheap tea, peas brose
Or three a penny rolls;
To swell the family purse
Would bravely face
The stinging hailstones
Which roared down Thistle Street;
Rattling, spilling milk cans
At unfriendly shadows,
Which crouched and waited
In darkened close mouths;
Before the school bell tolled
Venemous spitting cats,
Raised cutting claws.

Each night I tried to lie awake
Listening to the beat of drums,
The orangemen's staccato beat
Was echoed by the taunting flutes
To goad the slouched Choys,
Bawling songs,
Of Johnnie Thomson; Derry's walls
Loud arias of the dispossessed
Corner boys from Hallside Street,
Whose futile fists,
And parish boats
Beat in vain upon the door;
Which never opened to reveal
The oppressive emptiness within.

Down the rotten wall they came
An avalanche of huddled bugs,
Black and dense and as weak
As the victims trapped within,
The confines of a single end;
Great the carriage; as the slain
Were brushed aside in shovelfuls,
And thrown into a smouldering fire
A leaderless army's funeral pyre.

There was a screaming boy
Who once upon a time,
Hung crucified on twisted spikes;
Between the midden and the wall
He leapt; fell and writhed
Above the sewered dunny,
Of the high backs;
Until the shawl clad woman came
Howling down the turret stairs;
I fled,
Leaping pestilent pools
And raced the burning ground,
Down the long tarred
Broken street;
Where quick accusing eyes
Stared out of gaslit windows
And followed everywhere.

(to be continued)

POLICE! Fire! Ambulance!

by Chief Insp. Petrie

The only thing missing from the banner heading of this article is "DIAL 999" - and in this day of modern transistorised, electronic communication, that simple exercise will bring you the immediate aid or assistance you require. You will have read of the service provided by the Glasgow Fire Service in the two previous issues, and the purpose of this article is to acquaint readers of the public service rendered by the Police Force in the Gorbals area.

It should be stated at the outset that the City of Glasgow Police do not subscribe to the popular, but erroneous, picture of the *SOUTH SIDE*, which the international press and other media paint of our community. What may have been an element of truth, has been exaggerated and has lost nothing in the retelling over the years. We are a much maligned community - the public to a man being thieving cutthroats, and the Police a squad of swashbuckling, hard-bitten, baton swirling deputy Sheriffs! We would do justice to any wild west saga ever written.

The history of the Police Force in the Gorbals is quite interesting and those wishing to follow it up could do no worse than visit the Peoples' Palace in Glasgow Green The Gorbals Burgh Police Force was formed in 1808, and was amalgamated with the City of Glasgow Police in 1846, under an Act of Parliament. So it can be seen that we have been doing business for 160 years, during which time, and to this day, the tale is told.

The days of the horse and carriage, the crinoline and the forelock touching, which was commonplace in the mansions of Abbotsford Place have gone. The fine edifices which were and are deemed architectural splendours are, with the exception of Carlton Place, crumbling ruins or replaced with the towering skyscrapers of our modern skyline. The new era has at last dawned and, although some years from completion, will outshine its historical past in both buildings and community spirit.

The Police have not been left at the post either. As you are probably aware, Gorbals Street divides the interests of the Chief Superintendents of the Central and Southern Divisions. In the Central Division there is a fine new Police Office under construction. In the Autumn this should replace Lawmoor Street Police Office, which is currently housed in temporary hutted accommodation. Like the new homes adjacent, it will have every modern convenience except, alas, policemen! The Southern Division interest is centred in the Gorbals Sub-Station at 78 Nicholson Street. The office consists of mustering and refreshment accommodation for the Gorbals Section and its supervising officers, two temporary holding cells and a public Police Bar. Needless to say the Bar is not licensed, but is merely a counter with a traditional name! In the same building, and connected with it is the Glasgow Police Training School at 71 Oxford Street.

The Training School was erected in 1898, and was inaugurated in 1937, when it was modernised. Until 1947 it was the centre of all Police training in the West of Scotland, when this function was transferred to the Scottish Police College at Tulliallan Castle, Kincardineshire.

Recruits are fitted out and given the rudiments of the high standard of discipline - and indeed self discipline - required by the Police Service, before going to the College for three months intensive physical and mental exertion. They return to Oxford Street for three weeks to learn their powers and duties in the City where they will work, and where various Acts of Parliament and Bye-laws peculiar to the City are in force. The subjects which a recruit requires to study are indicative of the interest of the job which, quite apart from the enforcement of the laws of the country, is deeply involved in all forms of social service. Apart from the niceties of the Common and Criminal Law, and the apparently troublesome and annoying Bye-Laws for the control of parking, trading of various kinds and public conduct in public places, a wealth of knowledge must be stored regarding the authorities, associations, organisations and personalities, with interests in sickness and health, old and young, poor and needy, helpless and infirm, cruelty and kindness, indeed every facet of life in a large cosmopolitan city.

Cosmopolitan indeed, for the Gorbals has been the melting pot of what is popularly termed *Immigrant Communities* for many decades. The English, Irish, Welsh, Italians, Poles, Lithuanians, Jews from all over Europe, and for many years (although only spotlighted lately) from the Orient, Chinese, Indians and Pakistanis - have founded their homes and businesses in our ward. The Police experience of these communities is that they are hard working, law abiding and in general, possessed of a measure of the great friendliness of our City and ward. It is up to us to impress our indigenous friendliness upon their culture, and it will surely be matched, as many of us already know.

This article started with an invitation to call on the Police in situations of doubt, difficulty or danger. A telephone call, or merely informing a beat patrol officer will bring assistance to you as quickly as modern radio and transport will allow. Each officer is equipped with a personal radio with which he can contact his Central or Southern Division Headquarters, should the problem posed be outwith his scope. The shortage of manpower is very real, and is as frustrating to Sir James Robertson, the Chief

Continued on Page 8.

Constable, and to the Force, as it is to the public who believe that "you never see a polis when you want him". The objects of the Police Service are known in police circles as the *Three P's*

Protection of life and property,

Prevention and detection of crime and

Preservation of the peace.

Your police officers, although more mobile and in radio contact nowadays, can be greatly assisted in making life more secure, pleasant and peaceful for the new emerging population of Gorbals, by the assistance of that population. New homes, new faces, new communities and new attitudes: although the old Gorbals history will provide subjects for the raconteur - a new volume of peace and tranquility waits to be written.

As was said in the beginning:

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Spring Photo Competition Results

There was a small entry for the Spring Photo Competition which was announced in the April issue of THE GORBALS VIEW. We hope to run another photo competition in the Autumn, so remember to take some snaps during the Summer for it. It costs nothing to enter, and you may win a prize.

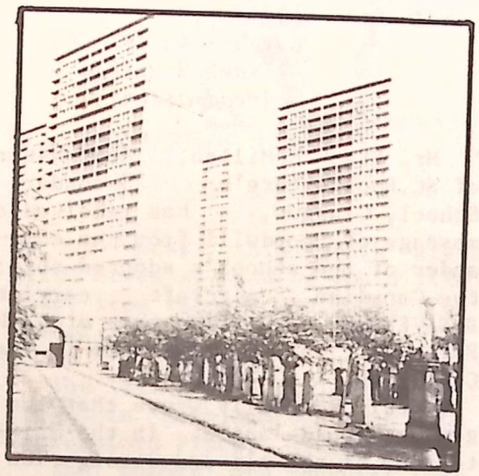
Congratulations to Martin Cox of 11F 487 Cumberland Street, Glasgow, C.5. Two of his photograps won the first two prizes, and he will receive prize money totalling five guineas.

Congratulations also to John Galbraith of Pitt House Bungalow, Ashford Hill, Newbury, Berkshire. One of his photographs, entitled *Before Barbara Castle* won the third prize of one guinea. John Galbraith said that if he won a prize, the money should be donated to THE GORBALS VIEW, as he likes to be kept in touch with the place he has lived in for 60 years. Thank you Mr. Galbraith.

There were no entries for the special prize of one guinea for the best photograph taken by a person under 16 years of age.

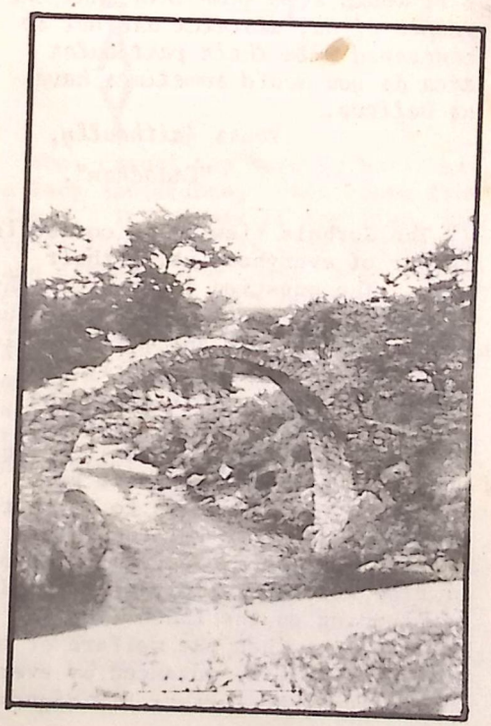
Prize winning entries opposite

"THE END OF AN ERA" : 1st. Prize of 3 guineas - Martin Cox.



"THE LIVING AND THE DEAD" : 2nd. Prize of 2 guineas - Martin Cox.

"BEFORE BARBARA CASTLE" : 3rd. Prize of 1 guinea - John Galbraith.



Your View!

Inglefield St.,
Govanhill.

Dear Sir,

I was most disturbed to read in the May edition of "The Gorbals View" that you had seen fit to recommend that your readers vote in a particular way.

To quote from the March "View":

"This paper, ever since its birth this time last year, has tried to foster this sense of communal responsibility and action."

Surely this statement would have been much more effectively put into action if you had devoted your "much thought" to encouraging readers to VOTE? This has become obvious now with the knowledge that the percentage poll in Gorbals was 32%, Govanhill 49%, Hutchesontown 36%, and Kingston 39%.

It would seem from this that the people of our district are not so concerned with their particular area as you would sometimes have us believe.

Yours faithfully,

"Cruachan".

(" The Gorbals View is of course in favour of everybody using their vote. The question is, how to achieve this? We don't feel that pious words are much use any more. People will only vote intelligently when they are really committed to the cause for which they are voting. Therefore we believe that it is our duty to encourage people to get committed. But it seems to us that if we are going to say this, then we also had better be committed too, or else we could simply be accused of standing on the touch-line.

We believe that the welfare of our community will be advanced by everyone striving to further his highest convictions about himself and his fellow men through the democratic process which at present applies in this country." Ed.)

St.Bonaventure's Secondary School,
Alice Street,
Glasgow, C.5.

Dear Sir,

The enclosed item concerning St. Bonaventure's may be of some interest to THE GORBALS VIEW, and will help to promote the better image of the school which we are working on.

With kind regards,

Yours faithfully,
Frank McMillan
(Headmaster).

" Mr. Frank McMillan, Headmaster of St.Bonaventure's Secondary School, Glasgow, has received a message of goodwill from the commander of the school's adopted ship; the Canadian aircraft carrier BONAVENTURE, flag ship of Task Force 301, now on exercises in the Carribean.

Captain R.H.Falls wrote that the gesture would 'assist in the maintenance of the old and strong ties which exist between our countries.'

Coloured pictures of the Bonaventure and her crew have a place of honour in the school's main hall.

In return, St.Bonaventure's is sending the ship a school crest , a tape of pupils singing traditional Canadian songs in French and English, and a model of theschool as it will look after the projected £1, 250, 000 development."

HOME and AWAY
at
CLOTHES for PLAY

Our models this month are all from Gorbals, and we would like to hear from readers who would like to model for us.

The little 7 year old girl on the right is Kathleen O'Gorman from 40 Abbotsford Place.

The mother and daughter team on the left is Maria and Kim (aged 8) Kilna of 148 Nicholson Street.

As you will see, all the outfits are very reasonably priced, and once again can be bought at C. & A.

The two piece playsuit in cotton costs 29/-, and is orange with navy and white stripes. Incidentally, it is made in France.

The stretch towelling swimsuit worn by Kim is in yellow, with multi-coloured stripes on front. The price is 18/-.

The casual top worn by Maria has a lacy appearance, and comes from Japan. It is made of Acrillac, and costs 16/-. It is blue and white, and matches the pale blue cotton chevron slacks with bellbottoms and sailor flaps which button on either side at the front. These are priced at 27/-. For those who wish topay a little more, you can also buy these slacks made of Melton wool in navy blue: price 35/-.

You can also buy the same top with long sleeves and in cardigans. Prices vary of course according to the garment, but none of them costs more than 25/-.

INDIAN and PAKISTANI page

This month we publish part of a speech made by Mr. Maan at Community House on 3rd. May during a meeting which was called to discuss the after effects of Mr. Enoch Powell's racialist speech.

Coloured immigration into Britian has been a live issue for a considerable time. Mr. Enoch Powell's irresponsible and highly exaggerated remarks the other day have given such an impetus to this issue that it has become the most explosive problem of today. In the aftermath of this speech, the coloured immigrants feel insecure, afraid, uncertain, and above all humiliated.

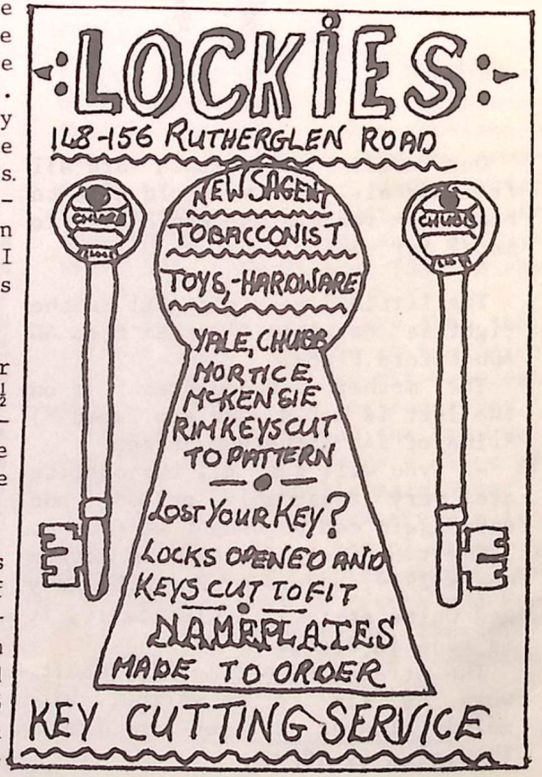
Fortunately, I happen to live in Glasgow: in Scotland where there are no racial problems. The Scottish people in general are friendly, considerate and tolerant. I am therefore living in a totally different atmosphere than the coloured immigrants in the Midlands. In spite of all this I feel insecure, afraid and humiliated. On behalf of the coloured immigrants I would like to refute the charges levelled against us.

Mr. Powell stated that in 15 or 20 years there would be about 3½ million immigrants and their descendants. By the year 2000 the figure would be 5 to 7 million; one tenth of the population.

At present less than 2 residents in every hundred are coloured. If the net rate of coloured immigrantion were to stay at the very high 1963 figure of 42,000 per year, and the birth rate to stay around 25 per 1,000, then according to a report by the Economist Intelligence Unit, in the year 2000 there would be approximately 3 million coloured people in a larger overall population of some 70 million, that is about 4%, and not 10% as forecast. In reality, even this ratio of 4% may never be achieved, as stringent immigration controls reduced the inflow of coloured immigrants to about 3,000 in 1967.

Mr. Powell then blamed the immigrants for causing a shortage of hospital beds. How could a man of Mr. Powell's intelligence make such a false statement? It is a well known fact that as many as 40% of doctors and nurses running the hospitals of this country are coloured. To quote the General Secret-

(continued on page 13.)



ary of the Medical Practitioners' Union: "Our hospitals are kept open by the presence of four thousand doctors from India, Pakistan and Africa." I wish Mr. Powell had consulted the medical records before making such a misleading statement.

The immigrants are also blamed for the housing shortage. However the housing shortage and the slums were here before the immigrants. The Milner Holland Report on London housing stated that immigrants in London were economically inevitable and that they were in no way responsible for the housing shortage. Apart from that, nearly all the immigrants are working and contributing taxes and rates towards the general fund from which Council houses are built. Many immigrants are working in the building industry, actually constructing the houses for whose shortage they are blamed.

Further, the immigrants are accused of being an economic burden. I would say this is the most illogical and false charge of all. The facts and all the evidence indicate that the immigrants take out considerably less than they put into the economy, and very much less than their proper share in relation to the extra economic expansion that their presence creates. They pay all the taxes, rates and duties etc., and statistics show that far fewer of them claim unemployment and other benefits due to them.

Both the immigrants and the native population must work for integration. Of course the immigrants are different from the British people, their culture is different and their customs are different, but we both have far more to give each other than we have to fear from each other.

REVIEW - by Moyna Gardner.

UNDER THE SKIN by Kenneth Ross
Citizens' Theatre until 1st. June.

This is Michael Meacham's last production with the Citizens' Company. It is also a world premiere. If only the play were up to the occasion.

Daughter is sex mad, son a blind imbecile with a pansy keeper, mother a food - faddist, and father an old blether of an ex-actor. You do get people like that, but all in the one house?

A sinister stranger gets some action into the piece. He forces the family to admit that the son's affliction is due to inherited syphilis. He is sent for treatment, probably too late.

There might be a significant point in the son's story. The pity the others feel for him is the only tender feeling we see all evening. With him goes the fractional goodwill they were capable of. Had they kept them helpless and speechless on purpose, for fear of losing this uncomplicated relationship, and having to face up to more difficult ones?

We should not have to scratch about for meaning in this way, and neither should the actors.

There are some laughs, and some work by talented people, but this is mainly for the collector of curious experiences.

the

battle of Langside

An account of a project by the pupils of Adelphi Secondary School, written by a girl who took part in it, ELIZABETH NEWALL, aged 14.

We started our project on the Battle of Langside last September, when we made a model of what Glasgow was like in 1568. They had very small houses, but there was a big castle called GORBALS TOWERS. On our model we showed that there was only one bridge in Glasgow, which the Regent crossed when he found out that he had made a mistake. There was also a ford named Abbotsford.

The boys and girls brought in a lot of materials - cardboard, and long wooden poles for the flags, red and black paper to make hats and tubing from the curtain factory in this district. They got cuttings from the carpet factory, and wide tubes from the linoleum factory.

Some boys brought in cans of paint of all colours, cord, coloured wool, sponges and sacking and old-fashioned clothes, including dresses, scarves and shawls.

We were helped by Miss Dempster, head of the sewing department, who allowed us to use the sewing machines when we were making the flags.

◆◆ ◆◆ ◆◆ ◆◆ ◆◆

Anne McCafferty, who played the part of Mary, Queen of Scots, has been taking riding lessons, for she rode on a real horse at the battle.

Suits were made out of sacking for the boys. We made swords and daggers out of pieces of cardboard which some of the girls brought in. The boys made a cannon out of wood and cardboard, which they painted black and gold.

In Mr. Somerville's room there is a host of paintings and pictures of Mary, Queen of Scots. A party of boys and girls visited Langside and

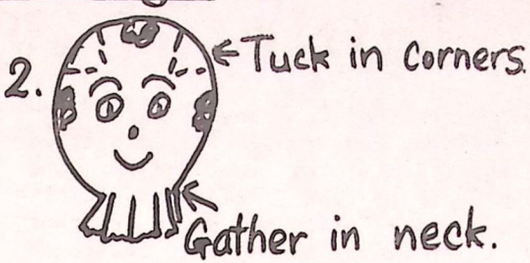
had their photographs taken by each other. A reporter from the Daily Express visited us and took some more photographs.

We paid a visit to the People's Palace on Glasgow Green and gained a lot of useful information from Mr. Wilkie, the curator. One of the boys made a wheel - we call it a teaching machin - and on it is a host of questions about Mary, Queen of Scots and the battle of Langside.

The Battle was fought 400 years ago. On 13th. May over 100pupils of Adelphi Secondary School re-enacted the Battle of Langside on Glasgow Green, and the rest of the pupils helped to prepare for the Pageant.

BARBARA's Page

Instead of things for Mum to make, this month we have some ideas for things the children can make - just in case we get any wet days this Summer. Everything can be made from boxes or tins which are usually thrown out, so they don't cost anything except for glue or sellotape.



PUPPETS

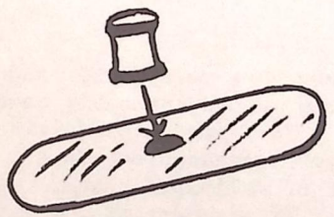
You need a white or brown paper bag, wax crayons or paints, sellotape, scraps or old material or crepe paper:

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

The children love a home-made band - parents must just put up with the noise.

CLAPPERS

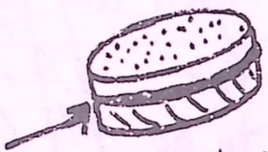
These are very easily made from the wooden top or bottom of an old date box, with empty cotton reels for handles.



SHAKERS OR RATTLES

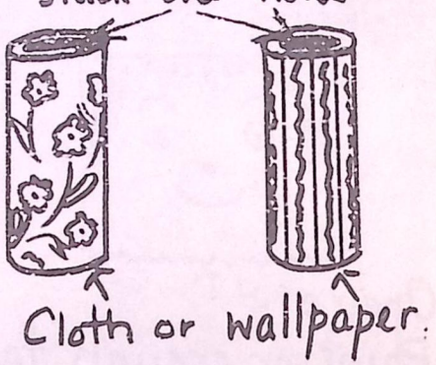
Make these from any old tins with a lid or beer cans. Fill with dried peas, lentils or rice, and put some glue round the inside of the tin lid before screwing on - so that the contents don't get scattered all over the floor when the tin is shaken. If you are using beer cans, cut a circle of cardboard to fit the top and stick over holes. Decorate with coloured paper or old wallpaper or material stuck round the tin.

Tobacco Tin.



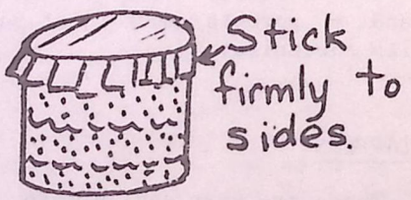
Glue on lid.

Beer Can Shakers.



DRUMS

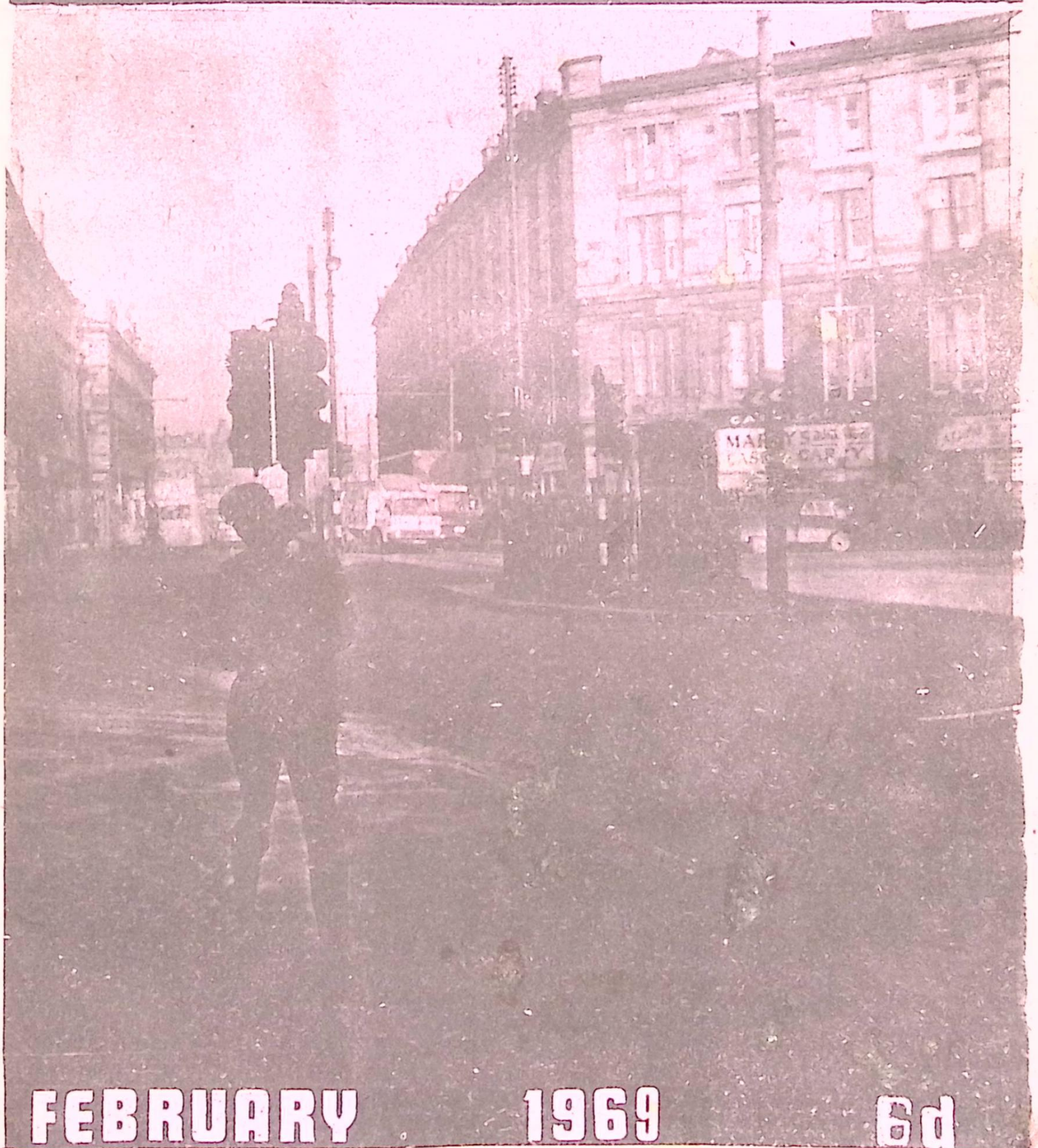
These take more work, and young children would probably need some help. You need a plastic or tin container, greaseproof paper, and a packet of wallpaper paste. Cut 20 circles of greaseproof paper, one inch larger in diameter than the top of the tin. Spread each circle with the wallpaper paste and place on top of the tin one at a time, pulling the sides down gently till the cover is firm (like a jam pot cover).



An old tin wastepaper bin covered in this way makes a magnificent large drum.

the GORBALS VIEW

no.23



FEBRUARY 1969 6d

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THE GORBALS VIEW FEBRUARY, 1969

A MONTHLY MAGAZINE FOR GORBALS, GOVANHILL, HUTCHESONTOWN AND KINGSTON.

CONTENTS:

COMMENT	1
BELLAHOUSTON SPORTS CENTRE	2
NEWS FROM GOVANHILL	3
GEHENNA (continued)	4
TORYGLEN TENANTS NEWS	6
WHAT'S IN A NAME?	6
WELFARE BENEFIT INFORMATION	7
LIBRARIAN'S CHOICE	10
MISS FEBRUARY	12
FASHION 69	14
BARBAR'S PAGE	16

Cover Photograph: "Gorbals Cross", by John Anderson

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COMMENT

There was a time when welfare benefits were regarded as gifts of charity. These were the days of the 'Parish' and the dole queue, when men and women had to sink their pride before they would stoop to accept welfare. The arrival of the Welfare State changed that, in our view rightly. What was once regarded as charity now is, and ought to be, regarded as right. Or is it?

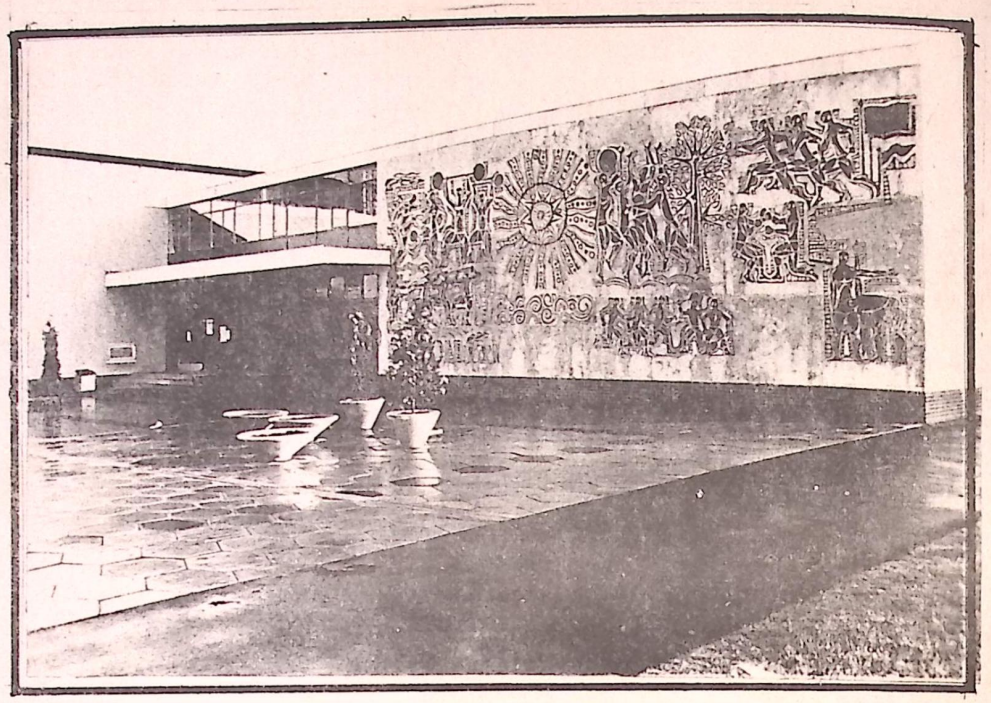
"Respect for human dignity requires respect for human rights ... we pass legislation to provide a variety of doles for which those who need them can apply - supplementary allowances, free school meals and other 'benefits' in cash and kind. Yet we refuse to tell people clearly and simply what help is available to them, lest they should come to regard it as a right" (POVERTY, 1967).

Needs or rights? If we believe that welfare benefits are due to people, not by charity but by right, then, surely, it is important that people should KNOW what benefits are available, and under what conditions. A wonderful job of publicity was done in Glasgow in regard to the right of appeal to a Rent Officer in cases of unfair rent - even to the displaying of posters in Police Stations, Public Baths, etc.

In order to assist people to know what rights are available, we propose publishing each month details of different benefits - Who can apply; What are the conditions; How to apply. And for this idea, we are grateful to the Liverpool Personal Service Society (Inc).

* * * * * *

Vanishing landmarks. This month, we publish on our front cover a photograph of Gorbals Cross. No doubt you recognized it right away. But did you notice that the clocks are gone?



You have heard of badminton, volleyball, fencing and judo. But have you ever heard of Akeido or Kendo? I discovered recently that these sports, and many more, were made easily available to the people of Glasgow by one of Glasgow's best ventures of recent times - the building, in conjunction with the Scottish Council of Physical Recreation, of the Sports Centre in Bellahouston Park. It is a truly modern idea housed in a truly modern building. The idea, following the recommendations of the Wolfenden Report, is to provide a sports centre for all ages, alongside comfortable and attractive cafeteria and general purpose accommodation - a place, as the brochure says, where clubs, families and individuals may meet to enjoy their leisure time in physical recreation and sport. The building, modern, bright and warm, seems ideally designed to make sport both easily accessible and enjoyable.

Annual membership ranges from £1 for family membership to 2/6d. for Under 10's and Old Age Pensioners, with a very reasonable charge for the use of facilities and for the hire of equipment.

There is a wide range of buses available, as well as ample car parking facilities.

And a special note for the physically handicapped. A lift and special toilet and showering facilities are available for wheelchair users and invalid athletes.

This is the sort of thing which is needed in many other places in Scotland - but congratulations to Glasgow Corporation for pioneering the idea.

NEWS FROM GOVANHILL

by John Beacham.

A friend who is an Insurance Agent remarked on the number of houses for sale in our area. He estimates that in territory he covers, which is only a part of Govanhill, there are at least 100 houses available, some in not very good condition. House-buying has become the accepted thing, as very few property owners are prepared to let their houses, and in instances where they do, the rents are usually exhorbitant. Many problems face young couples when buying a house, surveyor's fees, feu duty, loans, and, of course, lawyer's fees for transacting the business. Despite the severe housing shortage, many couples are chary of purchasing houses in some tenement property, firstly because most factors have allowed it to reach a stage of disrepair which entails large sums of money to be spent by the buyer to make the house habitable. Secondly, the prices being asked by the owners! When I hear of houses, usually three apartments, fetching £1,500, £1,800 and sometimes £2,000 in a tenement building, I get really angry. To me, this is exploitation of the worst kind! I do wish local authorities had power to intervene and set a ceiling on the price one could charge for any type of house.

A young neighbour of ours, Gerald Hurrel, a student at Glasgow Art School, was interviewed on television the other night as a winner of a £25 prize for contempary art in a competition. When asked for his opinion on his work, Gerry was lucid and demonstrated that he was able to express himself not only in art form. In reply to what I considered to be an unfair and even impertinent question by the interviewer - *"Would you describe yourself as an artist?"* - the lad replied that he was not prepared to answer the question. But from what I can gather, as I only have slight knowledge of him he was far too modest! Some admire his work tremendously.

Good luck to you, Gerry!

A true story from a local shopkeeper -

Small Boy: *"A half gallon of paraffin oil".*

Lady Shopkeeper: *"Is it for your mammy?"*

Small Boy: *"No!"*

Lady Shopkeeper: *"Is it for your granny?"*

Small Boy: *"No!"*

Lady Shopkeeper: *"Is it for your auntie?"*

Small Boy: *"No! It's for a paraffin heater!"*

GEHENNA

(continuing Harry Bryce's poem of childhood memories)

"COMICS GALORE"

The black masked phantom
Leering balefully
From well-thumbed covers
Of astounding magazines;
Piled ceiling high
Midst dusty comic cuts
Hotspurs and Beanos;
Adventurous wide world tales
Of dragons and headhunters;
The deadly Griffin
Air-ace supreme,
Whose blazing Ci-plane
Sent Richtofens circus
Smoking down the skies;
Fierce twisted turbans
Guarding the Khyber Pass;
Custer's flag furled stand,
Bill Hickock's six gun
Sent villains to Coathill;
Doc. Halliday crouching
Over Tombstone;
Buffalo Bill
Scalping Yellowhand;
Whose howling braves
Fled into the dust;
We'd never heard of Thoreau
Nor the sage Tolstoy;
But we read and learned
Painlessly; with joy
Stiff words they dared not teach
In Sunday School.

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"The Hing" by John Anderson

TORYGLEN TENANTS had no meetings in January, I am informed, but still intend to press on with other Associations with a deputation to St. Andrew's House, Edinburgh, on the question of the proposed 7/6d. increase on S.S.H.A. rents. I believe the date is February 4th.

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

RONALD THOMSON. Does the name mean anything to you? Perhaps you have a nephew or a friend or a gaffer called Ronald Thomson. But other than that, the name will mean nothing to you.

But to one particular Ronald Thomson, the name GORBALS means a lot - it means dollars.

This particular Ronald Thomson is a journalist in London. He came to Glasgow to do an important article, and while he was here he took the opportunity of doing some more work about Glasgow. He chose, almost in-evitably, to write an article about Gorbals. The usual rubbish flowed from his pen - the gangs, the violence, the scores of young people stabbed in Glasgow each week-end. Yet one more masterpiece of half-truth and mis-representation.

And who would publish such an article? This was not for British newspapers to publish. Mr. Ronald Thomson succeeded in distributing it to American Newspapers. Already cuttings of the article have reached the Gorbals View from newspapers in Duluth and Cleveland.

So what was the point of writing and distributing this apparently stupidly pointless article? It couldn't be meant to attract tourists to Scotland. It couldn't be meant to attract industry to Scotland. It must be that Mr. T. holds to the high principle that the peoples of the world have a right to know what goes on in the world - or at least the more shocking parts of it.

Or is it simply that a lurid story about the internationally famous Gorbals is good for a fast buck?

Last month, we published a list of J.P.'s in the C.5 and S.2 districts of Glasgow. We very much regret that by error one name was omitted. We are pleased to addit now to the list:

Mrs. Agnes L. Muir,
68, Crosshill Avenue,
Glasgow, S.2

INDIAN PAKISTANI PAGE.

As Mr. Mann is on holiday, this series is at present discontinued.

WELFARE BENEFIT INFORMATION. No. 1.

FREE PRESCRIPTIONS.

WHO CAN APPLY?

Category 1. All people aged 65 and over; all children under 15

Category 2. Certain others listed below:

a) Expectant and nursing mothers
b) Persons suffering from certain specified conditions
c) War Pensioners
d) Persons receiving supplementary pensions or supplementary allowances and their dependants
e) Other persons in need of help to pay the charge, and their dependants
f) Hospital out-patients in the above categories

HOW TO APPLY?

Category 1. Simply complete the declaration on the back of the prescription form, or, if you cannot go to the chemist yourself, get a friend or neighbour to do it for you.

Category 2. a) Special form of application is issued with Welfare Milk Token Book. So ask doctor *PROMPTLY* for form F.W.8(S).

b) Fill in Part B of Form EC91, obtainable from main Post Offices. Send completed form to your doctor.

c) Obtain certificate from Ministry of Social Security.

d) Obtain certificate from Ministry of Social Security. If you are receiving supplementary allowance from Employment Exchange, pay the charge at the chemist, and ask for form EC57. Employment Exchange will then refund cost.

e) Obtain certificate from Ministry of Social Security, or Form PC11 from Post Office.

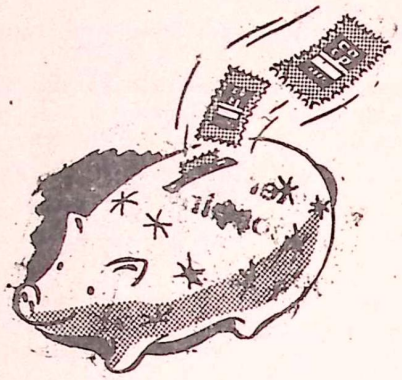
f) Enquire details from hospital.

FURTHER INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM:

The Executive Council, 17 Lynedoch Crescent, C.3 332-7551

or ANY office of the Ministry of Social Security.

S.C.R.S. Ltd.
47/61 BRIDGE ST.



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LIBRARIAN'S CHOICE

(We continue our series of reviews of books available in the Public Libraries, and, as always, are grateful to the Librarian of the Norfolk Street Public Library for this material).

JESUS CHRISTS by A. J. Langguth.
Book No. 83873 - Class No. Fiction.

Probably the most interesting book, to me personally, that I have covered in this series. I have thought about the person of Christ and about God, but have never been able to accept any of the official religious teachings on the subjects. The author's thinking on these matters is so near to my own that I felt, as I read this book, that it could have been written by me if I had had the basic idea that the author has, and his ability. Instead of concentrating all his thoughts on the historical Jesus and trying to decide whether or not he was the Son of God, the author puts Jesus, and other connected characters from the New Testament, into varied settings in many centuries and countries, and writes short incidents from these imaginary lives. Some of the incidents start with the premise that Jesus was sent by God, others that he was not, and others that he did not know whether he was or not. In the course of reading these short stories, which vary in length from a few lines to about twenty pages, one comes across much food for thought. The points which start off the thinking are not always the main theme of the incident, but may be just some statement made by or to Jesus. Parts of this book may be found to be objectionable to some, and some of the ideas are a satire on present day Christianity, but I do not think that the author's intention is to destroy anything, but merely to make one re-think old, fixed ideas. The basic fact which comes out of this book, and from all personal soul searching, is that, if Christ were alive today he would be treated no better than he was then. In fact he has no right to expect any different treatment.

SHARE MY TAXI by Robert Buckland.
Book No. 83753 - Class No. 388.322.

The day to day life and amusing anecdotes of a London taxi driver. He explains various facets of his work; how to obtain a licence; how much it costs to run a taxi and how much profit may be obtained. Naturally the author is biased in favour of the taxi driver, and he gives over a chapter to describing the many kinds of annoying passengers. However, the book seems to me to have been written by a reasonable man, and I found it very enjoyable.

KIKI by Albert Maori Kiki.
Book No. 83798 - Class No. B/KIK

The author was born into a primitive tribe in New Guinea, and in the early part of the book he describes their way of life and customs. Due to his father's being a village policeman, he was introduced to white men and civilisation. He describes his first visit to Australia and the colour-bar he found there. Partly because of this experience he became interested in politics, as a way of righting the wrongs suffered by his countrymen, in their own country. He became a founder of one of the main political parties in the area, whose aim is to achieve independence for New Guinea. One feels that only with complete independence can the people of New Guinea regain their self-respect, and sides with the author in this aim.

THE GORBALS VIEW NEEDS YOU .....

WE NEED YOU TO TELL US WHAT HAS HAPPENED OF INTEREST C

IN YOUR STREET OR IN YOUR ORGANIZATION

WE NEED NEWS OF BIRTHS, DEATHS OR MARRIAGES

WE NEED YOUR VIEWS IN LETTERS

WE NEED NEWS OF SPORT OR ENTERTAINMENT

WE WANT TO MAKE A MAGAZINE THAT IS FULL OF NEWS FOR

GORBALS, GOVANHILL, HUTCHESONTOWN AND KINGSTON

THAT IS WHY THE GORBALS VIEW NEEDS YOU TO PHONE SOU 0129 WITH NEWS

MISS FEBRUARY

1969 brought happiness to our girl of the month, Cathie Young, of 97 McCullock Street, as she became engaged to Billy Blair.

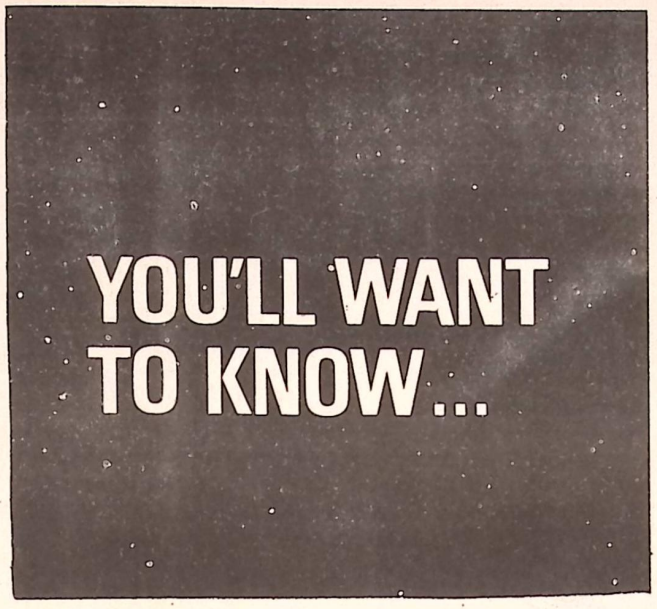
This is the age-old romantic tale of girl falls for boy next door. Cathie and Billy both lived in Gorbals, and later moved to Pollokshields, where they met. Cathie doesn't know when she will be getting married, but they hope to have four of a family eventually.

Billy is a Blacksmith's labourer and they would both like to emigrate sometime - perhaps to Canada.

Cathie is a Clerkess in a Dairy Produce firm, and helps, in her spare time, with clubs for younger children in her immediate district The clubs are held in a tenant's private house at the moment, but will soon be moving to the new Neighbourhood Centre to be opened by the Christian Action Housing Association.

Cathie was sorry about the adverse publicity given to the Q.E.2, and hopes it won't do the future of the Clyde any harm.

Cathie doesn't want to live in a multi-storey flat, and would like a bungalow.



. . . THE NEW LOOK GORBALS VIEW .....

..... SECOND BIRTHDAY ISSUE ON SALE FRIDAY, 28th FEBRUARY ...

FASHION 1969

January is sale time - a difficult time to write a February fashion article as shops are trying to sell off their old stock to make way for yet unseen new stock.

Having had the chance recently to have a glimpse of London fashion - all I can say is that nothing new has appeared on the scene since last I was there. It's mainly a case of anything going - in other words, you can wear the way-outest of the outest or the most staid of the staid.

In a way, most ways, it has great advantages, as a dress bought six months or a year ago needn't be out of fashion, as it would have been two year's ago.

Even makers are able to sell the most popular lines of last year's season again.

The greatest disadvantage is that it gives us nothing new to talk about or experiment with.

If anything, the whole feeling is simplicity - at whatever hemline you want (if anything, hemlines are a bit longer).

So it really means you wear what you want at whatever time you want, which means the great exhibitionists have less scope these days.

It means you can buy a zip up the front raincoat and wear it as a dress - as did my friend who took this month's photograph - I really had no idea it was a raincoat until someone else mentioned it.

So I hope that the new Glasgow stock will contain very simple dresses - by simple I don't mean plain - even the Edwardian embroidered blouse of last month's photograph I would call simple. I suppose simple means when there

aren't little bits and pieces tacked on for the sake of tacking them on.

That is why I like the black dress with silvery-gold buttons the model is wearing. It may not appear in shops at large, but the basic idea will go on reappearing in all shops from Macdonalds to Richard Shops and Lewis Separates.

Having had a look at the last of the sale rails, I see the sort of things with things tacked on left there - maybe because other people, like me, prefer a simple line.

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Head Office—71/73 Moncur St. S.E. Tel. Bel. 0670.

BARBARA'S PAGE

The worst of winter is still to come, I gather, so I looked at Queen's Park Ladies Circle recipe book with warm things in mind. The members of the circle collected together their way of doing things recipes, plus a number of original ones. The proceeds from this book go to the Glasgow Branch of the Multiple Sclerosis Society.

So I am passing a few recipes on to you.

Oxtail Soup with a difference:

1 lean oxtail
2 oz flour
2 oz cooking fat
1 large onion
2 meat cubes
2 pints water
1 tablespoon tomato sauce
1 lemon rind

Trim fat from pieces of oxtail, toss in flour, reserving the remaining flour for thickening. Melt cooking fat, fry oxtail until brown all over and transfer to a plate. Chop onions and fry for 2 minutes. Crumble and stir in meat cubes, together with boiling water. Return oxtail to pan, cover and simmer gently for 3¼ hours. Blend remaining flour to a smooth paste with some of the liquid from the pan, add to the soup with the tomato puree and simmer for a further 30 minutes. Serve with finely grated lemon rind and potatoes.

Haddock Surprise

2 oz butter
6 oz grated cheese
4 oz breadcrumbs
1 tablespoon parsley
4 medium haddock fillets
1 tomato

Cream the butter, 3 oz cheese, breadcrumbs and parsley. Spread the mixture on haddock fillets and roll them up from the tail. Place in pyrex dish. Slice tomato, place on top of fish, then add the rest of the cheese.

Cook in a moderate oven for 20/30 minutes.

Banana Bread

3 large/4 small bananas
1 cup sugar
¾ cup butter
1½ cups flour
1 egg
¼ teaspoon salt
1 teaspoon baking powder

Mash bananas in a bowl. Cream butter and sugar until light, and then add the egg, then the bananas. Sift dry ingredients, add and fold in. Grease loaf pan and bake for 1 hour at 325°.

Coconut Fingers

Melt ¼ margarine and ½ cup of sugar in pan. Add 1 cup of coconut, 1 cup of self-raising flour and two cups of cornflakes. Press into an ungreased toffee tin. Brush with milk. Cook until golden brown - 15/20 minutes - in a moderate oven. Ice while warm and cut into fingers.

the GORBALS VIEW

No. 25
1969

6d
april

T/GOR/42/11/7

:INDEX:

	page
COMMENT.....	
RESIDENTS' ACTION.....	2
WELFARE BENEFITS.....	5
FOCUS.....	6
ROUND AND ABOUT.....	8
NEWS FROM GOVANHILL.....	10
GEHENNA.....	10
VIEW FROM A BUS.....	11
CITIZEN'S REVIEW.....	12
JUSTICE OF THE PEACE.....	13
FASHION '69.....	14
PERSONALITY OF THE MONTH.....	15
LIBRARIAN'S CHOICE.....	16
DARTS LEAGUE.....	16

FRONT COVER PHOTOGRAPH:

"Gerry Lynn, Potter" by John Anderson.

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(SOU 0689)

COMMENT

For too long, the sheer weight of 'the machine' has created in areas such as Gorbals a sense of defeat - a feeling that little can be done in the face of those 'up there' - be they officials, factors, police, or any other in authority. And a recent study proved how even the development of law itself has favoured the owner and the proprietor as against the tenant, the rich against the poor.

All this has put on to Councillors an intolerable burden, for they have come to be thought of as the only people who can get things done. No doubt some have worked harder than others, but the most hard-working of Councillors could never be expected to keep touch with all the problems of a Ward, or get all the things done which local residents would like to see. And even the Councillors come up against the stone wall of officialdom on certain problems. Nor can the Municipal Ward Committees or local Labour Parties, working as they do with so few people, hope to deal in detail with all the problems of neglected wards.

That is why the Gorbals View welcomes the new spirit of defiant action which is represented in the Tenants' Associations and the new Gorbals Action Group. For the essence of these organizations is concentration on quite small areas, and the involvement of people in the problems of their own street or multi-story block.

Speaking in Peebles on March 16th Mrs. Judith Hart, the Paymaster-General, gave warning that the gap between Government decision-making and participation by the man-in-the-street in it was a 'potential danger to democracy'. If this is true of Governemtn issues, it is also true of local government. If it is true of industrial democracy, it is also true of local neighbourhoods.

The more it is possible for the man-in-the-street to participate in getting things done, the better will it be for everyone concerned - residents, Councillors, existing organizations, and the decision-makers themselves.

HUTCHESONTOWN TENANTS' ASSOCIATION

We reported in an earlier issue that representations had been made by the Association to The Secretary of State for Scotland against the proposed re-zoning of the site of Twomax. A letter received in reply from St. Andrew's House states that no plans have yet been submitted by Glasgow Corporation, but that when the whole problem comes up for consideration the Tenants' Association letter will be treated, along with others, as a formal objection.

We are glad to report that as a result of representations made to the authorities a bus shelter has now been erected in Caledonia Road at the multi-storey flats, though so far there has been no success in getting a pedestrian crossing.

SSHA rents are again in the news. A letter has been sent to the Chairman of SSHA, asking that the same consideration in regard to rent increases should be given to Hutchesontown as has been given to Anderston, where rent increases have been suspended due to redevelopment and the building of the Kingston Bridge. Both areas are redevelopment areas. We have also asked the Chairman to meet our Committee.

We have approached the Education authority in regard to the problem of children living in 474 Old Rutherglen Road. The roll of St. Francis Primary School is already full, and children starting school for the first time this year from 474 had to enrol in St. Bonaventure's School. Parents are unhappy about this, but it looks as if nothing can be done in the meantime.

DANCES: We thank Mr. Mclean of the Phoenix Bar and Baillie McElhone for prizes at the last dance.

THE NEXT DANCE WILL BE HELD ON APRIL 23rd IN THE TRADE UNION CENTRE, CARLTON PLACE. PRICE 5/-.

THE NEXT GENERAL MEETING WILL BE HELD ON MONDAY, 31st MARCH, AT 7.30 IN HAYFIELD SCHOOL, MOFFAT ST.

GOVANHILL WARD COMMITTEE

A fairly successful meeting on Storm Damage was held in Dixon Hall and a number of useful proposals we were put to try and get a speedy conclusion
conclusion to repairs in Govanhill area.

In preparation for the Municipal Elections in May we intend holding a public meeting in the Dixon Halls on a date in April. All the candidates have been invited and will each be allowed ten minutes to present their views. They will of course be questioned by the elector electors. We are embarking on this venture with a view to stimulating interest in the elections, so important for every resident.

The Secretary of Govanhill Ward Committee is David McCracken.

Gorbals Constituency Labour Party reminds residents that the following arrangements have been made to enable constituents to meet their public representatives;

MRS. CULLEN, M.P. - 1st Sunday of each month at 2.30 p.m. in Centre 258,
258, Nicholson Street, C.5

GORBALS WARD COUNCILLORS - (Clrs. Craig, Lindsay and O'Sullivan) -
1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month at 7.30 in St. John's School, Portugal Street.

HUTCHESONTOWN WARD COUNCILLORS - (Clrs. MacCrossan, McElhone and Mains) -
1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month at 7. 0 p.m. in Wolseley Street School.

RESIDENTS' ACTION

TORYGLEN TENANTS' ASSOCIATION -

Our Association is confident that our affiliation to the Scottish Council of Tenants will strengthen the fight against Rent increases and other injustices.

Locally, we are carrying on with our protest meetings to try to change the situation.

Our ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING takes place on March 31st at which Office Bearers are elected and a report on the past year's work is given.

We are hoping that the Mass Protest Rally on April 17th in Glasgow is supported not only by Council house tenants, but by all who are against rent increases in the city.

GORBALS ACTION GROUP

The first Public Meeting of Gorbals Action Group was held on Sunday, 9th March, in the Citizen's Theatre.

The idea of an Action Group started a few months ago when many of the residents of Abbotsford Place decided to band together in an effort to press for more action to be taken in repairing their houses and dealing with other problems.

Soon they felt that the idea should be extended to cover the whole of the Gorbals Ward. Their next step was to form a Steering Committee to look into the best way of doing this.

The Steering Committee decided to hold a Public Meeting, and its members are very grateful to the management of the Citizen's Theatre for permission to hold the meeting there at a very reasonable cost.

The whole area was leafletted prior to the meeting, and about ninety people attended. It was obvious that there was a lot of support at the meeting for the idea of forming an Action Group, and ways were discussed of going ahead.

As the membership builds up, it is hoped that each group of houses in each street will select a Convener to represent the residents of nearby houses. Conveners will meet regularly to decide on the course of action to be taken.

The most obvious problems will concern housing, but its interests will be wider than this. In particular, while Laurieston-Gorbals is being redeveloped it is hoped to keep in close touch with Councillors and Corporation officials in regard to the rehousing of Gorbals residents both in the new area and outside.

The Gorbals Action Group can help to improve our lives in the area, but only if we get a massive membership. If you live in Gorbals Ward, JOIN NOW, and get all your neighbours to join too.

HOW TO JOIN:
Write to, or telephone, the Secretary:
John Anderson,
258, Nicholson St
Glasgow, C.5
(Telephone -
429 1243)

Cost of membership:
2/6 only

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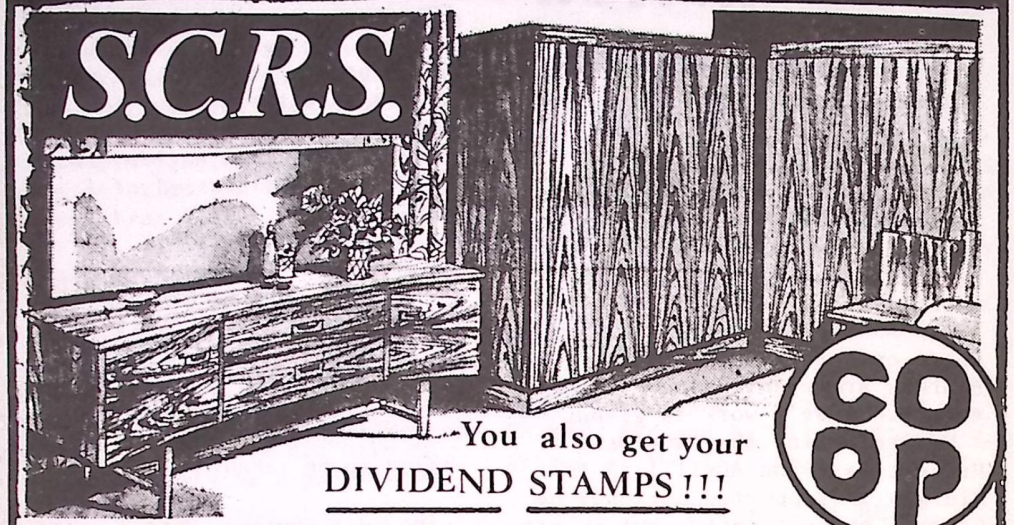

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WELFARE BENEFITS INFORMATION Nº2.

RATES REBATE

WHO CAN APPLY?

Owner occupiers of houses and flats
Tenants of private houses and flats
Tenants of Council houses and flats
Tenants of part of a house, in some cases
Occupiers of mixed property, such as house-cum-shop, which is mainly residential.

Full rebate may be granted to anyone in these categories, provided their income is below a certain level - for example, a married man will qualify if his income is below £11 per week, plus £2 per week for each child.

Reduced rebate may still be granted to anyone in these categories whose income is slightly in excess of the basic limit.

THERE ARE TWO REBATE PERIODS A YEAR, starting on 1st June and 1st December. If your income changes during a rebate period, your rebate for that period will not be changed, but may be altered for the next period.

HOW TO APPLY?

Obtain application form from the City Collector's Office not earlier than 1st MAY and 1st NOVEMBER in each year. To ensure the maximum rebate return the application form before 1st June and 1st November, preferably by post in the envelope provided. Forms returned more than one month late may reduce the amount of rebate

FURTHER INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM:

THE CITY COLLECTOR'S OFFICE,
45, JOHN STREET,
GLASGOW, C.1

OR

Any office of the Ministry of Social Security

FOCUS .....

It is a far cry from the old Police Station of 'Blue Lamp' days to the modern Station recently opened in Cumberland Street. I was shown round it not long ago by Superintendent Thomson and Inspector Neil, who are understandably proud of the new quarters. At present the new Station, which replaces the old hut in Commercial Road, is not working at full strength, and covers the South Side only, east of Gorbals Street. In time, however, two more sections on the north of the river will operate from Cumberland Street.

The most obvious improvement on old Police Stations lies in the provision of staff facilities; a new style Muster Room - kitchen and a small dining room where men on duty can brew up for a snack - individual lockers in the cloakroom, and a shower for the man coming in off the beat - a recreation room - more spacious and comfortable offices - all designed to make the 'policeman's lot' a slightly happier one.

But for the public too things have changed. An entrance hall and enquiry counter give the impression of welcoming the person coming for assistance or information. And the bar for charging prisoners is out of the way at the back of the building. Indeed, the design of the building seems intended to underline the distinction in treatment of the general public as contrasted with the arrested prisoner. But in a modern building is there really the need to retain so rigidly the old type of accommodation for holding prisoners. For in the cells nothing has changed, except that flushing toilets are now provided - presumably anything more that is modern or comfortable might immediately be regarded as 'molycoddling the criminal'.

This new Police Station, placed as it is right in the centre of the huge new residential development area of Hutchesontown, will do much to enhance the image of the Police as a source of ready assistance.

National Federation of Old Age Pensioners' Associations

GRAND RALLY

in ST. MUNGO HALL

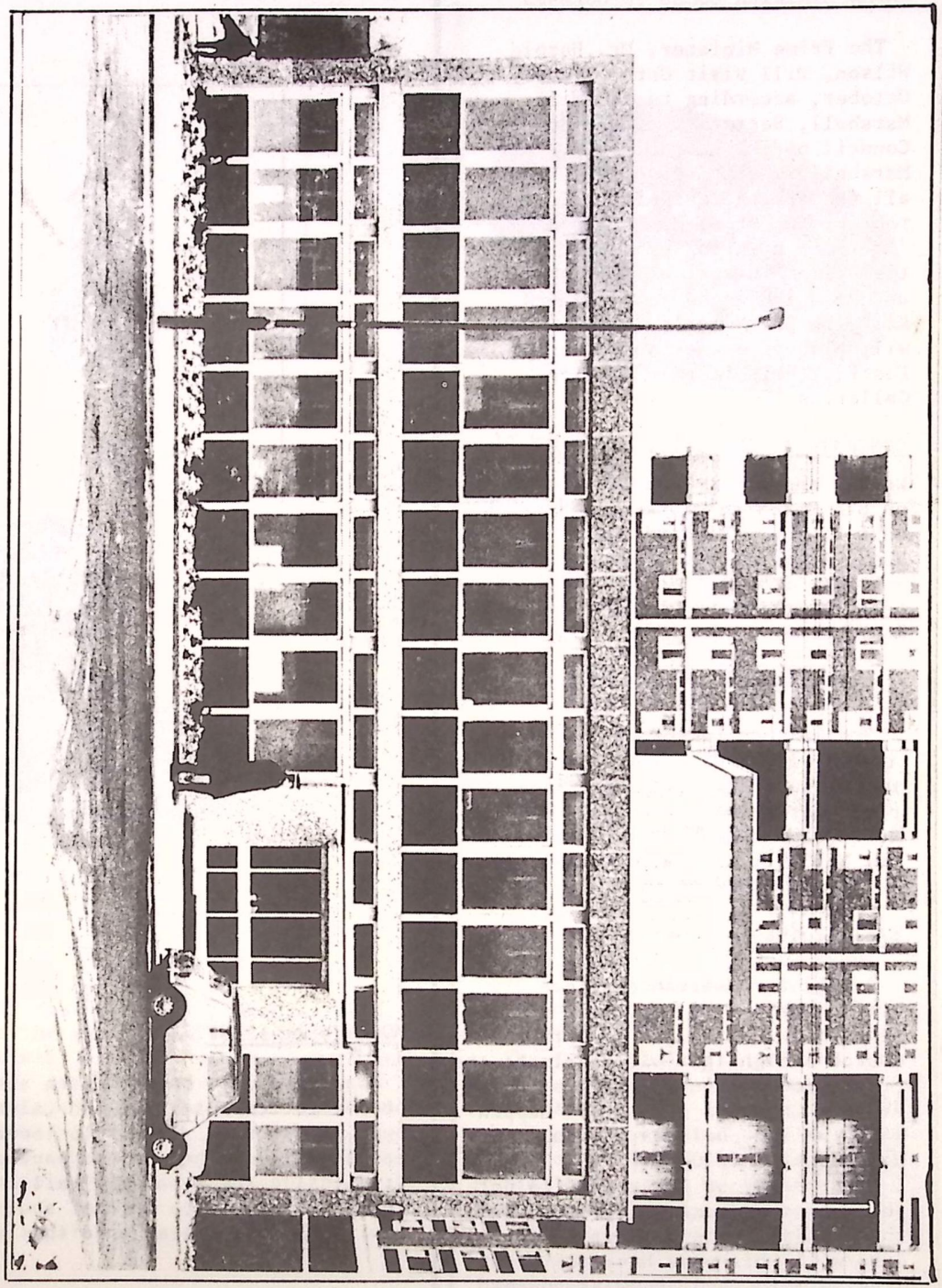
ON SUNDAY, 20th APRIL at 2 p.m.

SPEAKERS:
T. MORGAN JONES Propaganda Officer
HUGH WYPER Glasgow Trades Council
Mrs. ALICE CULLEN, M.P. for Gorbals
Mr. EDWARD TAYLOR, M.P. for Cathcart

CHAIRMAN: Mr. A.MELVILLE E.C. Member, Region 15

.....

A cordial invitation to all interested parties



PRIME MINISTER COMES TO GORBALS

The Prime Minister, Mr. Harold Wilson, will visit Gorbals early in October, according to Mr. Will Marshall, Secretary of the Scottish Council of the Labour Party. Mr. Marshall, who is responsible for all the arrangements for a Scottish tour by the Prime Minister, says - 'There is a strong probability that the Prime Minister will speak at a huge all-Glasgow Labour Party Rally in St. Mungo's Halls. He will also open the Labour Party Festival Fair in the McLellan Galleries.'

CONGRATULATIONS.....to Richard Weaver and Linda McDougall, married on 8Th March in Laurieston-Renwick Church, where Richard was in the Boys' Brigade, and Linda is still a Sunday School teacher. Richard and Linda have set up home in Newlands Road.

PENSIONERS' ROOF GARDEN CLUB

Mrs. MacCormick of the Guild of Aid in Coburg Lane informs me that there are a few vacancies for pensioners wanting to join the Roof Garden Lunch Club, which meets in the Guild of Aid on Mondays and Thursdays at 12 noon.

EASTER, 1969.

Religious observances, some traditional, some new, will once again mark Easter. In St. Francis Church a highlight will again be the Procession, while in Laurieston-Renwick Church a series of 'Happenings' will be held each evening of Holy Week at 7.30 p.m.

Readers may be interested to note that a more recent Easter tradition, the massive Peace Demonstrations of CND, will this year have one part passing through Glasgow at lunch-time on Good Friday.

MONEY WELL SPENT?

Nearly £38,000 has now been spent on the former Hutchesontown-Caledonia Road Church. The main tower has been strengthened, and paving laid inside the remaining walls. In time, it will be part of a newly landscaped area once the line of Crown Street has been altered. In the recreation space so formed it will stand as a monument to the work of the famous Glasgow architect, 'Greek' Thomson. When the whole plan is finished, it may be shown that the preservation of the old Church is a work of imagination. At the moment, it looks like an appalling waste of £38,000.

round and about

SCHOOL PUTS ON EXHIBITION.

A fascinating study of Gorbals past and present, was shown to visitors on 7th and 10th March by the pupils of St. Bonaventure's School. An Exhibition, which had entailed a tremendous amount of research and preparation, showed through models and drawings many of the past historic features of Gorbals, some of which will be retained in the Gorbals of the future. Through this study of the past, the pupils came to understand a great deal more of the whole world around them now. And by discovering how Gorbals had developed in the past, they came to form opinions and ideas about how it should develop in the future.

The Exhibition was shown in the midst of a varied programme of entertainment, including three short plays, of which two had been scripted by the pupils themselves.

All the reports of these two Open days tell of an entirely fascinating and successful job of work done by St. Bonaventure's. We hope that the Exhibition will be on view again soon.

NEWS FROM GOVANHILL

by Johnnie Beacham

Mrs. Peggy Ronaldson of Allison Street has been appointed Lady President of Hampden Bowling Club for the second year running. She is justifiably proud of the silver jack presented to her by the Club last year. Her husband, Bill, has been a member at Hampden for many years and both are also members of the Indoor Bowling Club. They have a married daughter in Toronto and last year they spent ten weeks with Vicky and her husband, Jerry, and their two grandchildren, Gail and Karen. Peggy is an asset to any organization. Her enthusiasm is catching. To further activities she aslo attends a Country Dance Class. A busy life no doubt keeps boredom at bay!

.....

I was sorry to learn of the tragic death in a car crash of ex Third Lanark winger and Secretary of the Professional Footballers' Association, Johnny Hughes. Johnny had his introduction to the Trade Union field as a Shop Steward in Parkhead Forge. He took over the Secretaryship of the Fottballers' Union from ex Celtic star Alex Millar. Johnny was in the true mould of Trade Union officials, completely dedicated to improving the conditions of his members. He will be remembered by many old Third Lanark supporters, but more so by the footballers he served so well.

Gehenna

(the first part of the final section of Mr. Harry Bryce's poem.)

Grim war hawks gathered
Weird sirens wailed alarm;
Five hundred droning bombers
marked wing to tail
With black sinister cross
Came thundering over
The soft, low Cathkin Braes,
Where frantic guns spat
Upwards. Gehenna's skies
Blazed hot and redder.
Skyscraper beams
Swerved drunken
Across the bursting sky;
We huddled closer
Beneath a shuddering masonry
Of a ragstone pen,
Wondering if old Sean,
Chain-smoking in his bed,
Was safe; he'd yelled -
"The enemy's no up there
But doon below!"
On came the loud marauders
Twisting above the Clyde;
And Surrey Street went up
in flames; old men
Framed in burning windows
Fell screaming;
Ballater Street lay battered
As half-ton floated mines
Crashed upon the female
Night shift staff;
A well aimed missile
Swished down and missed
Broomielaw's three bridges,
To burst upon the plates
Of a new found cruiser.

Two miles downstream
By Govan's rotting pier
Destroyers and merchantmen
Were blown apart,
Leaping like frightened frogs
Upon the slanted quays;
Wild hammering yards
Were missed by fractions,
Levelling the crowded tenements
Of Clydebank and Dalmuir.

VIEW FROM A BUS

(Some months ago, we published a very popular comment on his job from a Glasgow bus driver. We publish here another short article.)

. . . . . .

To reinforce what I said on a previous occasion about not stopping for passengers in between stops, consider the case of the old lady in Byres Road. It was raining heavily at the time. As I waited for the lights to change, I saw this nice old lady standing on the pavement, looking appealingly at me. I opened the doors, and she got on, jst as I drew away from the lights. Immediately she started hammering on my window with her brolly. 'Silly old Moo', I thought, 'she's got on the wrong bus. Well, she can jolly well get off at the next stop and walk back.' On ar

On arriving at the next stop, I opened the doors. There I discovered a dog - a dachshund, to be precise, its tongue almost as long as its body - stretched along the ground, attached to a leash which the old lady was holding. She screamed at me in a most unladylike tone, and stumped off the bus breathing fire and brimstone at me for causing her little Fritz to run all that way.

When we arrived at the terminus I said to my clippie - 'You might have told me about that dachshund a bit sooner.' She retorted - 'You didn't give me much time - and anyway it was a greyhound when the woman got on!'

SOUTH AFRICA WEEK.

The Gorbals View welcomes the decision of Glasgow Corporation to have nothing to do with the South African Trade Exhibition (see page 11 of our last issue.)

We were disappointed to see that The Daily Record said:

"The vote of the Glasgow councillors can be applauded loudly on moral grounds. Can we applaud so loudly on practical grounds?"

It is regrettably all too seldom that moral principle is seen to operate in political decisions where it seems to clash with practical considerations. It is good to see Glasgow Corporation standing firm on this issue.

CITIZEN'S THEATRE REVIEW by Moyna Gardiner

"OUR KINDNESS TO FIVE PERSONS"
by Tom Gallacher

This premiere of a play by a Scottish writer has been eagerly awaited. Straight away let it be said that this is a most agreeable evening.

The play is set in Glasgow; if most of the characters have spent their lives trying to find a way out of their class, and and if possible out of their city, we must admit that this actually happens.

The five persons - two brothers, two girls and one extra man - were very close once, when they were all about twenty. This is the re-union about ten years later. Some of the plans which they had made have still to be completed, and this is the point of the play. The key figure is Judd, who had been the master-mind, and the vulnerability of his plans and of himself are gradually revealed until, by the final curtain, the problems of everyone but Judd have been resolved.

Mr. Gallacher has an ear for real conversation, and has manipulated believable characters in an interesting way. Acting, production and decor are well up to standard.

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THE OFFICE OF JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

(In a previous issue we published a list of Justices of the Peace in the Constituency of Gorbals. To follow that, we invited Councillor J. O'Sullivan, Gorbals Ward, to write an article outlining the duties of a J.P. He has produced for us a very full account of the history of the Office and of its functions. We think that this article makes very interesting reading, and rather than cutting parts of it out, we intend to publish it in three parts.)

Though the Office of J.P. in Scotland is not as ancient as it is in England, nevertheless it dates back to the reign of James VI by an Act of 1587.

In 1611, J.P.'s were empowered to try offences except in the case of noblemen, prelates and Senators of the College of Justice. In other words, the primary function of the Justices was to keep the King's Peace in their county and to punish offenders against it.

Under the Act of 1661 the duty of Justices was to prevent and punish rioting and breach of the peace, and to bind persons under a fitting or suitable sum to keep the peace. They were also directed to enforce the Acts against beggars, vagabonds, poachers, and against cursing or profane swearing, breaking of the Sabbath, etc. They were also expected to enforce unanimity of weights and measures. They were given control of prisons and poor houses. They were to fix wages enforcable by imprisonment and also the price of craftsmen's work. They were also entrusted with the repair of roads. Indeed this latter duty regarding roads only ceased in 1878.

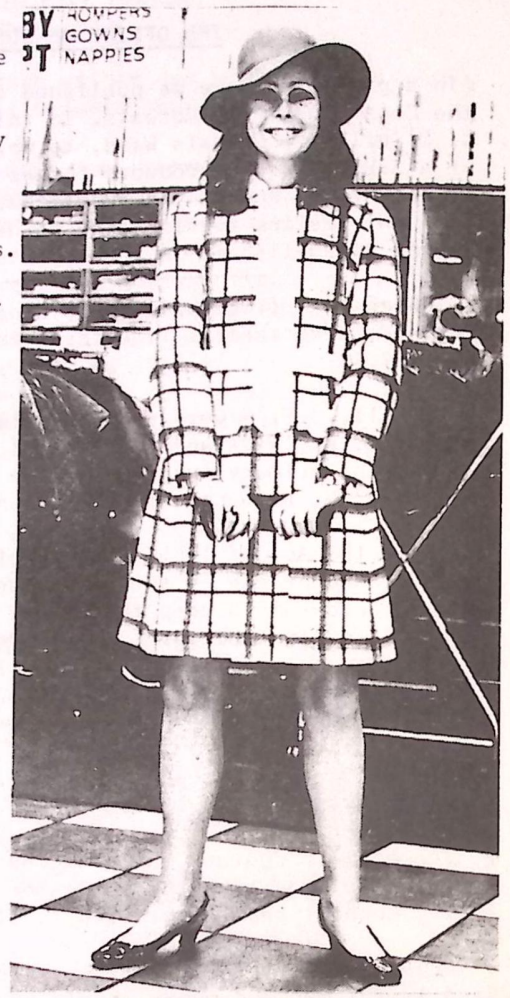
In the 17th Century there seemed to be difficulties in obtaining persons to undertake the duties of Justice of the Peace because the Privy Council had to threaten to fine persons who refused the Office.

Under the Act of 1707, it was provided that the appointment of good and lawful men and women should be made by Her Majesty under the Great Seal, and this is still the law.

The Minutes of the Justice of the Peace for Lanarkshire from 1707 to 1723 are available and have been edited by Dr. Charles Malcolm.

According to Dr. Malcolm, the Justices seemed to have exercised their authority fairly; that they had established themselves as a factor in the legal system of the country; and that they were energetic in their administrative duties.

Fashion '69



This month I took a look round the Co-op in Bridge Street. The selection may not be vast but it is good and as a member of the Co-op you may join the Mutuality Club which makes payment easier.

With Easter in mind I looked at coats and, of course, Easter bonnets.

Our model this month is Josephine Madden, who works as a window dresser in the shop.

The coat she is wearing is a checked waisted coat on a creamy base; the broadest lines are brown and the thinner lines blue and black. The pockets are very small; and the coat is well lined. It costs 15 guineas, which with 20 weeks to pay would be 15/9 down at 6d in the pound.

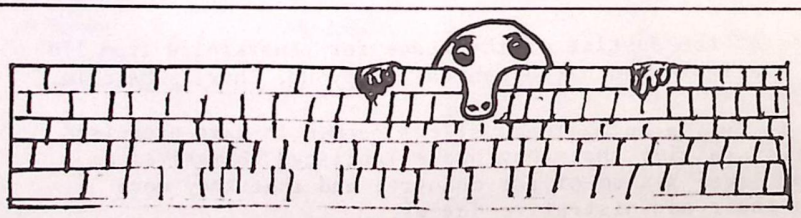
To go with the blue lines in the coat, Josephine is wearing a gulf blue felt hat - superbly floppy - which costs 43/6.

This is in fact one of their most expensive models. At £7 16s are a variety of chunky checked wool mixture full length coats.

At £8 12s are several plain cotton mixture pastel-shaded coats.

From £11 11s to £11 15s are some extremely nice grey, fawn and camel coats in several styles suited to a all ages.

So good coat hunting and a Happy Easter to all!



WOT NO BARBARA'S PAGE? NEXT MONTH

Personality of the month.

bill wolfson.

Bill Wolfson, who lives at 34, Abbotsford Place, is Chairman of the Steering Committee which started the Gorbals Action Group.

40 years ago, there were trams and beautiful gardens full of flowers in Abbotsford Place, and this is part of Bill Wolfson's happy memories of old Gorbals.

Gorbals was then the home of the Jewish people, and still has one of the finest synagogues in the country. At one time there was a Jewish public house called the 'Hebrew Beer Tavern' in South Portland Street.

Bill tells a fine story - "I came originally from Halifax, Yorkshire. My parents planned out my professional future, but my father died suddenly and I had to leave school, to provide a few shillings for the family home. I decided to become a hairdresser.

"However, when I was 21 years of age I went to a dance in Manchester where I met Dora who happened to be there on holiday from Gorbals. She invited me to Glasgow, with her mother's permission, and eventually we married.

"I had no money, but Dora had a little, and we opened a hairdressing shop - 'Billdora' - in Rutherglen Road. Dora learned the trade and we worked together. By this time we had a little daughter.

"Then the war broke out and I joined the army. Dora carried on alone, but Gorbals received a direct hit in the bombing and half the shop was blasted away. We moved to Hospital Street.

"When the war ended I went into insurance, and I am now the Manager/Caller at the 43 Bingo Club in South Portland Street."

Bill Woolfson is photographed here studying an untidy backcourt.

Librarian's Choice

MANNED SPACECRAFT; by KENNETH GATLAND.
Book No. 83921 Class No. 629.1388

The author, vice-president of the British Interplanetary Society, has written the perfect handbook for all who are interested in the space-race which fills our newspapers every few months. This book differs from most in that it gives details of Russian as well as American space flights. There are a lot of pseudo-technical details given, but the text is written for the ordinary man who knows nothing about physics. There are eighty pages of coloured illustrations, diagrams of spacecraft, maps of landing areas and photographs taken from spaceships, which add to the enjoyment of this book.

FOUR AGAINST THE MOB: by OSCAR FRALEY.
Book No. 84113 Class No.364.977132.

Another series of adventures of Eliot Ness, whose name has become a household word in this country in the last few years. This time he is cleaning up Cleveland in 1935. This book was written, with the help of Ness's wife, by the journalist who co-operated with Ness himself in the writing of "The untouchables". The facts of the story are undoubtedly correct, although some of the details may have been slightly altered. It is an easy book to read, but, unfortunately, there are no photographs.

DARTS LEAGUE RESULTS.

The following teams have won their sections in the West Area Darts League of Tennent Caledonian Breweries Limited and go through to the knock-out stages:

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Moy Bar	20	13	3	4	30
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Tunnel Bar	20	9	7	4	22
Lorne-Bridgeton	20	9	7	4	22
CrossKeys	19	6	5	8	20
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Splash Bar	20	7	9	4	18
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Kiloran	19	4	12	3	11
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DATE . . . . . .

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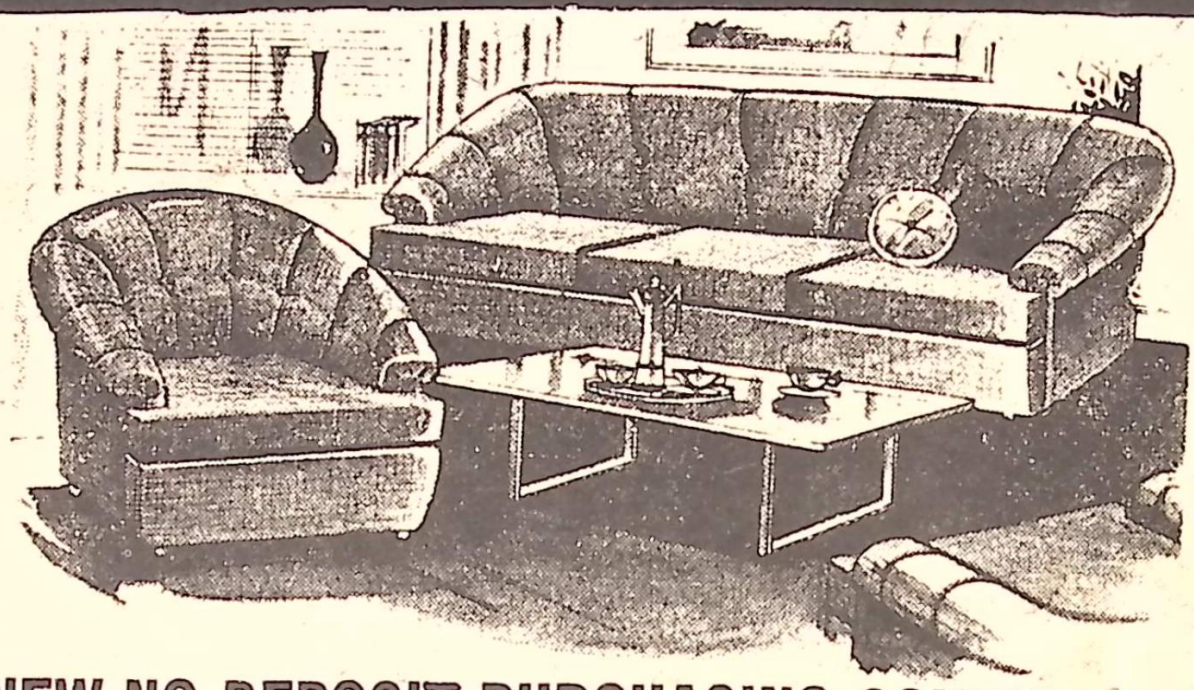

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the GORBALS VIEW

August

1969 No. 29

6D

T/SOR/42/11/7

:INDEx:

	page
COMMENT	1.
RESIDENTS' ACTION	2.
AN OPEN INVITATION	3.
WELFARE BENEFITS	5.
FOCUS on "NO BAD MONEY"	6.
ROUND AND ABOUT	8 - 9.
VISIT OF F.D.F	10.
FASHION '69	11.
YOUR VIEW	12.
LIBRARIAN'S CHOICE	13.
BARBARA'S PAGE	15.
COME FORWARD, THE FOOTBALLERS	16.

FRONT COVER PHOTOGRAPH:

"GOVAN FERRY", by James Common
(who also contributed the photograph on page 8 - 9)

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COMMENT

ONE .....

Watching the Independent Network coverage of the Moon Landing, one of the things which we found most fascinating was the excellent discussion on the profoundly important question of the value of the whole enterprise. Some, notably Sammy Davis Jnr. and AJP Taylor, roundly condemned the wastage of money and talent when poverty and oppression and war still stride the earth. We agreed with them wholeheartedly, only to find, to our dismay, that we agreed also with those who pointed to the magnificence of the whole undertaking, the unbelievable technical skill, the possible benefits to mankind, and, most of all, the strides forward in the pursuit of human knowledge. How are we to resolve this dilemma? Only, we suggest, by bringing into the picture the third major technological undertaking of our age - the arms race. It is nonsense to suggest that the Space Race diverts resources from the Arms Race, though it very successfully diverts attention. But both these do divert not only resources but, perhaps more important, scientific and technical skill from the race to beat world famine - the Survival Race. It is nothing short of tragedy that the Survival Race depends for the most part on the pathetic good will of Oxfam and War on Want to supplement the totally inadequate investment by major powers of finance and scientific research in the problems of poverty and hunger. The time is long past when we should ditch for ever the Arms Race, so that the resources of the world can be turned to the combined efforts of the Race for Space and the Race for Survival.

TWO .....

Events on the Moon dwarfed into insignificance an STV news report on a tenement which collapsed in Scott St. And perhaps the most terrible comment on the state of Glasgow's housing was an interview with two old ladies who, that very day, were due to move INTO that derelict tenement. Here in Gorbals we have seen the same thing - family after family offered accommodation in a monstrously derelict house in Bedford Street. In a later edition we hope to investigate the situation more thoroughly. In the meantime, we urge the Housing Department to vet much more thoroughly the accommodation offered to people in old properties.

Residents' Action

Because of the holiday period our usual report on the action taken by various community groups in the area is necessarily shorter than usual.

The following short report is contributed by HUTCHESONTOWN TENANTS' ASSOCIATION:

After our demonstration we have now succeeded in closing the Old Rutherglen Road, but alas traffic is still finding its way through the multi-storey blocks roadway, causing a potential hazard to young and old. Road signs at Moffat St. and Old Rutherglen Road state "ACCESS ONLY". Last word from the local Police was that these signs are legally binding, but that as yet there is no date given for when they come into force. Tenants are getting rather disturbed that no action is taking place - MUST WE WAIT TILL THERE IS A ROAD DEATH?

This month, Mr. William Boyle, a Committee Member of the Tenants' Association, has started, along with eight other lads from the area, our first Boys' Club. It is off the ground already, and they have picked their first football team. The name of the team is OREGON PINE (after two local streets) and further details are given on page 16 of this edition of The Gorbals View. The Club's Committee and the Association would like to thank the patrons of The Phoenix Bar for the donation of £26. This money has now purchased the team's first strip, and it is of the boys' own choice of colours - Red with Black Stripes, like Inter-Milan.

At the moment, Rev. Stuart Dickson, of Rutherglen Road Parish Church, has given these lads the use of the old Pine Street Church, which we all hope will be given to the area as a temporary Community Centre. The boys and their Committee are down there every night fixing floors, getting the lights working, etc., and say that they will have it ship-shape in no time.

Two further items:

The Post Box adjacent to the shops at the multi-storey flats has now been placed in position and is ready to take your mail.

It is hoped that a meeting will take place in the near future when the people of Gorbals will have a chance to meet all the candidates in the By-election.

GORBALS CONSTITUENCY LABOUR PARTY reminds residents that the following arrangements are made to enable constituents to meet their public representatives:

Pending the by-election, constituents who would have wanted to see Mrs. Cullen, M.P., are invited to meet Councillor Frank McElhone, Prospective Labour Candidate, in Centre 258, 258 Nicholson Street, on Sunday, 10th August at 2.30 p.m.

GORBALS WARD COUNCILLORS - (Councillors Craig, Lindsay and O'Sullivan)

1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month at 7.30 p.m. in St. John's School, Portugal Street.

HUTCHESONTOWN WARD COUNCILLORS - (Councillors MacCrossan, McElhone and Mains)

1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month at 7.30 p.m. in Wolseley Street School.

AN OPEN INVITATION

Readers may notice that our photographs this month extend beyond Gorbals Constituency to our neighbouring Constituency, GOVAN. One thing which we have always envied that part of the City is its own GOVAN FAIR, recently revived as an enterprise in which all organizations and individuals in the area can take part.

Sometimes we have wondered - if Govan, why not the South Side? We know that already the Ward Committees and various residents' groups whose activities we normally report on this page are up to the eyes in their own programmes of action for the good of the community. The last thing which we would want to do would be to suggest anything that would divert them from this action.

Just the same, we wonder if the drive and initiative of these bodies might not be sufficient also to sustain the joint undertaking of some such community venture as a SOUTH SIDE FAIR - perhaps early in the summer of 1970. We offer no blue-prints but we would be prepared to convene a preparatory meeting of these bodies plus schools, Churches, youth organizations, Senior Citizens' Clubs, etc., if enough interest seems to be forthcoming.

We invite all such organizations to contact The Gorbals View if you feel that such a suggestion is worth following up.

HUTCHESONTOWN SENIOR CITIZENS LEAVE FOR THEIR OUTING ON JUNE 1st

(Photograph by Martin Cox)

BACK TO SCHOOL

AUG. 25TH.

"OH WELL IF SHE'S THE LOCAL TALENT I'LL BE TAKING 20 HIGHERS!"

FOR EVERYTHING YOU NEED FOR GOING BACK TO SCHOOL

SEE PAGE 17

S.C.R.S. 47, 61, BRIDGE ST, GLASGOW, C.5.

Welfare Benefit Information No. 4

LEGAL ADVICE AND LEGAL AID.

LEGAL ADVICE.

WHO CAN APPLY? Anyone whose means are small and who is in need of legal advice or requires to assert or dispute a claim or has grounds for a civil court action may apply for a consultation not exceeding ninety minutes in duration.

WHAT ARE THE CONDITIONS? If your capital is less than £125 and your weekly income after tax, National Insurance and other deductions is less than £7 10/- for a single person or £9 15/- for a married person and certain larger figures in the case of a married person with family and other dependents, then you will be entitled to legal advice on payment of 2/6.

If you earn more than what is stated above you may see a solicitor for a period of thirty minutes only on payment of £1.

If you or your wife/husband are receiving an allowance from the Ministry of Social Security and you have capital not exceeding £125 between you, then you will be entitled to free legal advice.

LEGAL AID.

THE CONDITIONS of granting legal aid are more complicated than can readily be explained in this short article, and you should consult a solicitor on the Legal Aid Panel who will help you to fill in the application form.

Legal Aid is NOT available in the following civil actions:
a) Libel and Slander; b) Breach of promise; c) Enticement;
d) Appeals to Tribunals.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

LEGAL AID COMMITTEE,
217, WEST GEORGE ST., C.2 (248 - 6681)

CITIZEN'S ADVICE BUREAU,
212, BATH ST., C.2

OR

LOCAL MINISTRY OF SOCIAL SECURITY OFFICES.

FOCUS on... 'No Bad Money'

First 'NO MEAN CITY', and now, by the same author, 'NO BAD MONEY', published for the first time this year by Corgi, in paperback at 5/-. It is presumably one of the many skeletal novels reputed to have been found in a dustbin after the tragic death of Alexander McArthur. His first book was written into publishable form by H.K. Long, this second book by Peter Watts. It might have been more merciful to have left it where it was found.

The title of 'No Mean City' was a direct quotation from no less a personage than St. Paul, who, being asked his origin, replied 'I am Paul of Tarsus, a citizen of no mean city'. The origin of 'No Bad Money' is less well-known, not to say infamous, and is a quotation from one of the characters in the book itself. Our hero - or anti-hero as he would now be called - is one Bob Leyland, a young man who, in the grim thirties of Glasgow, conceives of an escape from slumdom. He attaches himself to a well-known prostitute and her two novice daughters. He envisages, achieves, and is eventually destroyed by a mini-empire of prostitution. His first decision to drag himself up from poverty to wealth in this way is encouraged by the local publican, Joe Shoreman.'The world's a bluddy jungle', he says.'There's no bad money. It's the way you handle it.' 'That's guid,' says Leyland.'I like that. There's no bad money.' And thus comforted , he proceeds to acquire more and more property for his questionable lady tenants through an even more questionable house factor in 'St. Vernal St.'

The book is a chronicle of his expansion, marred only by the intrusion of one Archie Lennox and his gang, including the notable Jock McFadden. Leyland is able to dispose of them by a crafty piece of double-dealing, whereby Lennox's gang is tricked into a massive battle with Pat Riley's gang - the Romans - and both are betrayed to the Police. Leyland remains secure in the knowledge that all his enemies are now safely behind bars, but inevitably Jock McFadden returns, a fiendish instrument of justice, and Leyland is slain in a brawl; the moral presumably being the doubtful truism that immorality doesn't pay.

'No Mean City' made no attempt to disguise the fact that it all happened in Gorbals - and a deal of damage it did to the reputation Gorbals over the years. 'No Bad Money' substitutes all its street names, though the house factor's St. Vernal St. must surely be St. Vincent St. But the cover blurb boldy states that Leyland learned his sex-money-power lesson 'in the slum underground world

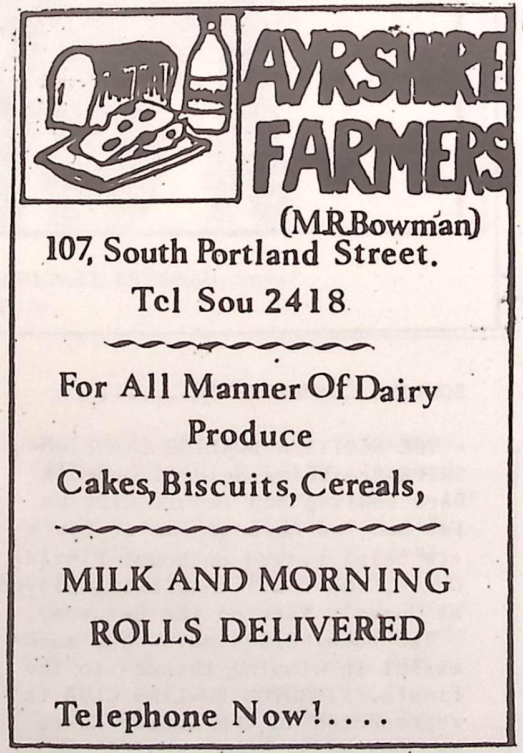
(continued on p.7

of pre-war Glasgow, the Gorbals.' Sounds like the same old record.

It is hardly enjoyable reading. It is unrelieved by any of the humour which such bawdiness might be expected to provide. And the unlikeliness of the characters is only exceeded by the unlikeliness of their names - Nellie Bales, Flora Breeze, Peter Gimpsey, Andy Screen and the incomparable Betty Lowbrae.

This is not a good book. Yet there are times when there emerge a real poignancy and sometimes, as in the description of the hunger demonstrations, a real anger over prevailing conditions which suggest that Alexander McArthur could have been a much more valuable chronicler of his times. Or are these parts the work of Peter Watts?

WHO WAS ALEXANDER McARTHUR? NEXT MONTH - OR THEREABOUTS - THE GORBALS VIEW WILL INTERVIEW ONE OF OUR OWN READERS WHO KNEW HIM WELL AS A BOY.



(contd. from p.13

on the illustrations: 3 maps. This contents list sums up this lovely little book which was printed in Japan (in English). For anyone who wants to know what Moscow looks like, this is the book. The lack of text is no disadvantage in this book since the pictures are so very good.

PLAYERS FOR PAGANS:
By ROGER BUSH.

Book No. 84946. Class No. 248

Christian poetry. Written by an Australian Methodist minister, these poems (with illustrations) describe his feelings on seeing various people (some in distress). Each "prayer" has some reference to God in it, and it is this reference which distinguishes them from ordinary modern peotry. A book to make you think.

round and about

AUTUMN PRODUCTION...

The children and leaders of Gorbals Adventure Playground are busy preparing an ambitious production for Autumn - a performance of Benjamin Britten's famous 'Noah's Flood', or 'Noye's Fludde' as he originally called it.

All the parts of the animals will be played by children from the Playground, and they are busy making costumes, masks and scenery. We look forward to hearing further news for later issues of The Gorbals View.

What's Chinese for breakfast in bed?

Chou en Lai.

In the News..

WORKERS LEAVING THE UPPER CLYDE SHIPBUILDERS' YARD IN GOVAN.

BY-ELECTION NEWS.....

A fourth candidate has now been nomintaed for the Parliamentary By-election which is expected now to take place early in the autumn. The Communist Party has announced that Mr. JOHN KAY of Bishopbriggs will contest the seat on their behalf.

In the meantime, the other three major Parties who have so far nominated give news of the appointment of Election Agents and the opening of Committee Rooms as follows:

CONSERVATIVE:

Candidate:	Clr. William Shearer
Agent:	Mr. Clifford Allick, Regional Party Organizer
Rooms:	253, Calder Street.

LABOUR:

Candidate:	Clr. F. McElhone
Agent:	Mr. William Marshall, Scottish Regional Organizer
Rooms:	95, Gorbals Street.

S.N.P. Clr. T. Brady

Candidate:	Clr. T. Brady
Agent:	Mr. George McLean
Rooms:	241, Cumberland St.

CONGRATULATIONS.....

to Rose Irvine and James Donnachy, married on Friday, 18th July, in St. Vincent's Church, Thornliebank. Rose Irvine's family, formerly of Nicholson Street, now live in Arden. The Donnachy family have now left Bridgeton to settle in Gloucester. Rose and Jimmy plan eventually to live in Jersey, where Rose worked for three and a half years.

BOWLING CHAMPIONSHIPS.....

THE SCOTTISH BOWLING CHAMPIONSHIPS are being held at Queen's Park Bowling and Tennis Club on 1st and 2nd August. Senior Fours are being played on Mount Florida Green, the final then being played at Queen's Park on the Saturday.

Two local Clubs have been successful in winning through to the Finals. KINGSTON BOWLING CLUB is represented in the Senior Fours by JOHN MUIR, TOMMY HUNTER, WILLIE BROWN and ALEX STEVENSON, (Skip). QUEEN'S PARK Bowling and Tennis Club is represented in the Pairs by WILLIE INGLIS and ALEC PATERSON (Skip). It is a great honour to play in the finals at Queen's Park, and we offer these players our sincere congratulations, and our good wishes for their success in bringing to their respective Clubs the honour of being Scottish Champions.

ENROLMENT OF ALL THOSE WANTING TO TAKE PART IN THE VARIED PROGRAMME OF CENTRE 258 - 258 NICHOLSON ST. - WILL BE ON SATURDAY, SEPT. 6th, ANY TIME BETWEEN 3 and 7 p.m. PROGRAMME INCLUDES POTTERY, PAINTING, PHOTOGRAPHY, CHESS, TYPING, SEWING, DRAMA, ETC.
NO AGE LIMIT!

VISIT OF THE F.D.F. TO GLASGOW.

On Tuesday, 8th July, a party of Danes arrived in Govanhill at the beginning of what was to be a most enjoyable and interesting visit. They were sixteen members of the 1st Kolding Kreds of the F.D.F., which is the Danish Boys' Brigade, together with the wives of two of the officers.

While in Scotland they were billeted with members and friends of the 216th Company of the Boys' Brigade, which is attached to New Bridgegate Church in Dixon Road, Govanhill. This was the third such visit which the F.D.F. has made to Scotland.

The visits started shortly after the war and were the result of a wartime friendship between Mr. Chris Munster from Kolding and Mr. James Harvey from King's Park. Since the war, the 216th B.B. have visited Kolding three times, the last visit being in 1967 when many new friendships were made and members of both organizations availed themselves of the opportunity to learn a little of one another's language and customs. This knowledge was put to good use during the Danes' visit here this year when many old friendships were renewed.

The official side of the visit consisted of visits to places of interest and two social evenings, all of which were arranged by Mr. Harvey, Southern District Convener of Boys' Brigade. The unofficial side consisted of shopping for souvenirs during the day, and parties, many of them impromptu, in the evenings.

There is not space to tell of all the many places seen in and around Glasgow, starting with a civic reception in Kelvingrove Art Galleries. A visit to W.D. and H.O. Wills tobacco factory on the first day was followed in the evening by a welcoming social, at which the Scots and Danes took it in turns to entertain. During the next days, their journeys took them to Prestwick and the famous Electric Brae; round the Three Lochs; and 'Doon the Watter' in lovely weather.

On the Sunday morning the F.D.F. and B.B. marched from Bankhall St. to New Bridgegate Church, led by the Pipe Band. The Service was conducted by Rev. D.M. Copp, who spoke about the Danish National flag.

Wednesday, 16th July, was the last day of the Danes' trip. It was spent by visiting the Transport Museum in Albert Drive in the morning, from where the Danes went on to B.B. Headquarters in Bath St. where they had lunch. The afternoon was spent at Hoggan field Loch.

The high point of the visit was the farewell social in the evening when the singing and dancing went on until well after 10 o'clock. Parties for the older Danes and their officers went on until the wee sma' hours of the morning, yet evryone was up bright and early to meet in Dixon Road where the Danes' bus left for Newcastle at 9.30. Parting is never easy but the Danes bade farewell to their hosts confident in the hope that it would not be long before they all meet again in Kolding, Denmark.

CHARLES W. MUNN.

Fashion '69

WET WEAR AT C. & A'S.

There are poplins and cottons in a wide range of colours, mainly pastel, for women and children.

Anoraks - all sorts at 75/-d. upwards, printed and plain.

In the slightly more expensive price range, for young girls is a cotton, three-quarter length, printed style in green and yellow floral at £6.10. -d.

Another popular line are wet looking nylon jackets at 50/-d. and 70/-d., half and three-quarter length, in petrol blue, orange, navy, black and red.

Another popular jacket at £5.10s. is single buttoned, false belted in beige and light blue.

The brightest and easy to carry are the plastic, gaberdine and PVC. They vary in price from 20/-d. to £4. One of the better looking ones is plain coloured with hook-ring buttons and a quarter belt at the back.

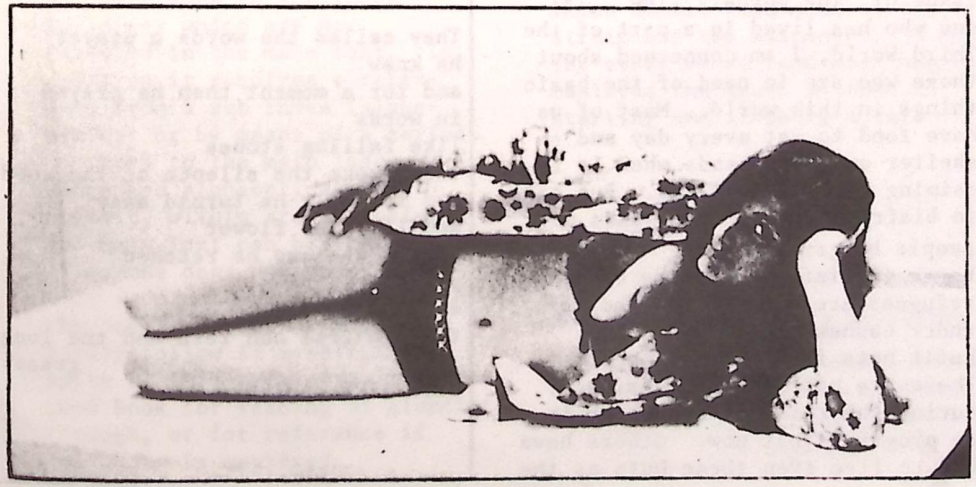
These things are in the downstairs department; upstairs I went to look at children's rainwear.

Prices, of course, vary according to size. There are some small plastic macs at 5/-d., in white, sea-green, yellow, blue and pink - very light, easy to pack away.

At 20/-d. there is a thicker, plastic one with stripes and dots in blue, green and blues.

Boys' gaberdines and plastics in black and different shades of blue, yellow and red at 10/-d.

A good bargain from 14-19/-d. has large, bright floral designs which our model is wearing over a navy blue bikini (27/-d. from the Beachwear Department), which is the other side of wet-wear, so to speak. Our model is Terry Ann Halbert, an American student from Philadelphia, studying at Glasgow University for a year, and has been around here for the past few months and hopes to return to Glasgow in the not too distant future. I ought to mention that the mac she is wearing isn't as mini as it looks, since it is, in fact, a child's mac.



YOUR VIEW!

Sir,

Would all residents in the entire locality who have been served what they consider a raw deal from local Insurance Officers or at the district offices of the Ministry of Health and Spcial Security write to me at the above address enclosing their own names and addresses.

It is my intention to visit London soon and present a petition to Mr. Crossman, M.P., Minister of Social Security, concerning several protests served me relative to maladministered evidence, contrary to law, etc.

Yours, etc.

E. McCann.

882, Rutherglen Rd.,
Glasgow, C.5

Sir,

I want to add my voice to that of W. J. Harvey who wrote in the June issue of "The Gorbals View". As one who has lived in a part of the Third World, I am concerned about those who are in need of the basic things in this world. Most of us have food to eat every day and shelter over our heads when it is raining or time to sleep. But today in Biafra there are thousands of people hungry and cold. Near my house in Biafra thousands of refugees are huddled for shelter under cashew trees. Some had built huts from palm branches. These are not much protection during the rainy season which is in progress just now. Others have had to flee even these huts as the Nigerian Federal Army has advanced into this area. Food is very scarce as this place has been cut off from the relief supplies that are being flown in by the Churches and the Red Cross. I just don't know what my friends are eating.

And day after day the war goes on. Have we forgotten? Our British Government is still sending guns and ammunition and armoured cars to Nigeria to help them kill their 'brothers'. Can we not stop <u>our</u> Government?

It is said that today we live in a Global Village. The world has become so small that it seems like it is only a village. The T.V. makes us aware of what is going on everywhere. But do we care? Do we think of the Biafrans as our neighbours who need our help? They are fighting for the right to survive, to be allowed to live as a free people. Will we help them?

Sincerely,

Agnes Gollan.

TRYING TO PRAY
by Farquhar McLay

They called the words a prayer
he knew
and for a moment then he prayed
in words
like falling stones
they broke the silence of the wood
and inwardly he turned away
and like the flower
toward the sun he reached
still searching
and the wind
through tree and fern and the long grass
came like applause.

Librarian's Choice

ARCHITECTURE OF GLASGOW.
by ANDOR GOMME and DAVID WALKER

Book No. 84912, Class No. Ref.941.435

Although this book is for reference only it should prove to be of great interest to the people of Glasgow. It covers the whole of Glasgow and includes more than three dozen buildings and tenements in this area, including a fine view up Abbotsford Place. Every page contains photographs of interiors and exteriors of buildings and the text gives details of the architect, date of building etc., as well as notes on architectural features. One dreadful feature of this book, which made my blood pressure rise a few points, is the indexing system. It is very frustrating in that it indexes and describes in the index buildings which are not featured in the main text. In addition it requires a reference from a sub index (alphabetical or by means of a series of maps) to the main index (arranged alphabetically by streets, within areas), before the main text can be looked up. If anyone does not understand this - do not worry. Even with the book in front of me, I can hardly follow it myself. In spite of this criticism it is a good book for reading or glancing through, or for reference if the index is mastered.

THE KING'S INDIAN DEFENCE:
by LEONARD BARDEN,
WILLIAM HARTSTON and
RAYMOND KEENE.

Book No. 84881. Class No. 794.122

The latest chess book to be added to the library. A complete account of the many variations of this popular opening, together with notes on general strategy for both black and white. The authors are three successful young British players and Leonard Barden is already known for his book on Ruy Lopez. A good book for expert chess players, but not for learners.

WHAT EVERY WOMAN AUGHT TO KNOW, ABOUT MEN AND MOTORS:
by JOYCE WILKINS.

Book No.84894. Class No.796.78

Written in a humorous style and sprinkled with amusing illustrations, this is, nevertheless, and instructive book for women drivers or would-be-drivers. You will not find any basic instruction on driving, but the book consists of tips and hints which may make driving easier, and which should take some of the strain off the passenger. A book for every woman (and man) who has mastered the basic actions of starting and stopping a car.

MOSCOW.
(This Beautiful World Series).

Book No. 84943 Class No.914791

Four pages of historical introduction: 100 pages of coloured illustrations: 31 pages of notes

(continued on p.7

Appearing on S.T.V's 'Late Call' during May, Rev. John Young of Pollokshields Congregational Church sang a song about multi-storey flats. We print the full song here, with grateful acknowledgements to the author, Mr. Adam McNaughton.

The Height Starvation Song
by Adam McNaughton

I'm a skyscraper wean, I live on the 19th flair,
But I'm no goin' oot tae play any mair
'Cos since we moved tae Castlemilk I'm wastin' away
For I'm gettin' wan meal less every day.

Chorus: Oh ye canny fling pieces oot a 20 storey flat
700 hungry weans'll testify tae that,
If it's butter, cheese or jeely, if the breid be plain or pan
The odds against it reachin' earth are 99 tae wan.

On the first day ma maw flung doon a dod of Hovis broon
It came skitin' oot the windae and went up instead o' doon,
Noo every twenty hours it comes back intae sight
'Cos ma piece went intae orbit and became a satellite.

On the 2nd day ma maw flung me a piece oot once again,
It went and hit the pilot of a fast low-flying plane,
He scraped it off his goggles, shouting through the intercom
"The Clydeside Reds have got me wi' a breid and jeely bomb".

On the 3rd day she thought that she wid try another throw
The Salvation Army band was playin' doon below,
Onward Christian Soldiers was the piece they should have played
But the oompah man was playin' a piece on marmalade.

Now we've wrote away tae Oxfam tae try and get some aid
And a' the kids in Castlemilk have formed a piece brigade,
We're gonny march tae George's Square, demandin' Civil Rights
Like nae mair buildin' buildins ower piece flingin' height.

Barbara's Page

SUMMER SALADS.

Looking back over the last few weeks I seem to have eaten more salad than anything else - but I never tire of it; there are so many ways of making salads.

One of my favourites is to go to the Delicatessen in Portugal St. and buy cream cheese and/or liver sausage (otherwise known as liver-wurst). But you could have any sort of cold meat and pies - like the sugar bridies you can buy from the baker in Queen Elizabeth Square. For the salad itself, lettuce is an essential; I like it pepped up with a dressing made of a teaspoonful of olive oil, a teaspoonful of vinegar, and a dash of pepper and salt.

Tomatoes - if you want to make an attractive salad you can make water lilies by cutting into and around the centre with continuous V's.

Sliced egg and cold potato with a coating of salad cream is also an idea.

Beetroot can be eaten sliced with or without vinegar according to your taste - I find it pretty tasteless without.

I am also very fond of sliced orange and apple which add an extra something to a salad.

Lena's, in Norfolk Street, sell a cheap block of dates - either a large block for 9d or two small blocks for 10d. This adds sweetness and bulk to a salad.

Also, unheated baked beans can be very nice in salad.

Don't try them all at once! Just pick and choose, and try a variety - and how about sending us in your ideas for extras for a salad.

Good salad eating!

AGNES DALZIEL

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COME FORWARD, THE FOOTBALLERS!

The Football Season is on us again, and it looks like being a bumper season for the boys of Gorbals and Hutchesontown.

We can expect to hear great things from ST. LUKE'S BOYS' GUILD, who, as we reported in a previous issue, have had a team touring in Ireland, and who will be entering several teams in the Boundary League and the GAUYC Leagues.

CROSSROADS YOUTH CLUB will also be fielding teams, and boys interested in playing should contact the Club.

It is especially good news to hear of two new teams starting up for younger boys - OREGON PINE and ELM STAR.

OREGON PINE is organized under the auspices of the new Club formed by Mr. Boyle of the Hutchesontown Tenants' Association. All the boys are Under 13 years old, and have been entered in the City and Boundary League. Their home ground will be Glasgow Green, and games will be played on Sunday afternoons. The Cup Draw takes place on 17th August, and we will be publishing fixtures later on.
Team Manager:
William Boyle,
3c - 341 Caledonia Road
Team Secretary:
Alan Scott,
21F -341 Caledonia Road

ELM STAR is organized mainly for boys in the Oatlands area. Their organizer is looking for someone in or near the area to help with the running of this team. He would like to hear also of some more boys between the ages of 12 and 15 who would be interested in playing for Elm Star, in the same league as Celtic Boys' Club and other such well-known teams. Fixtures begin in mid-August. The team is also in need of financial support through raffles, donations, etc. If you want to help or to play, contact:
Jimmy Nelson,
45, Elmfoot Street,
Glasgow, C.5

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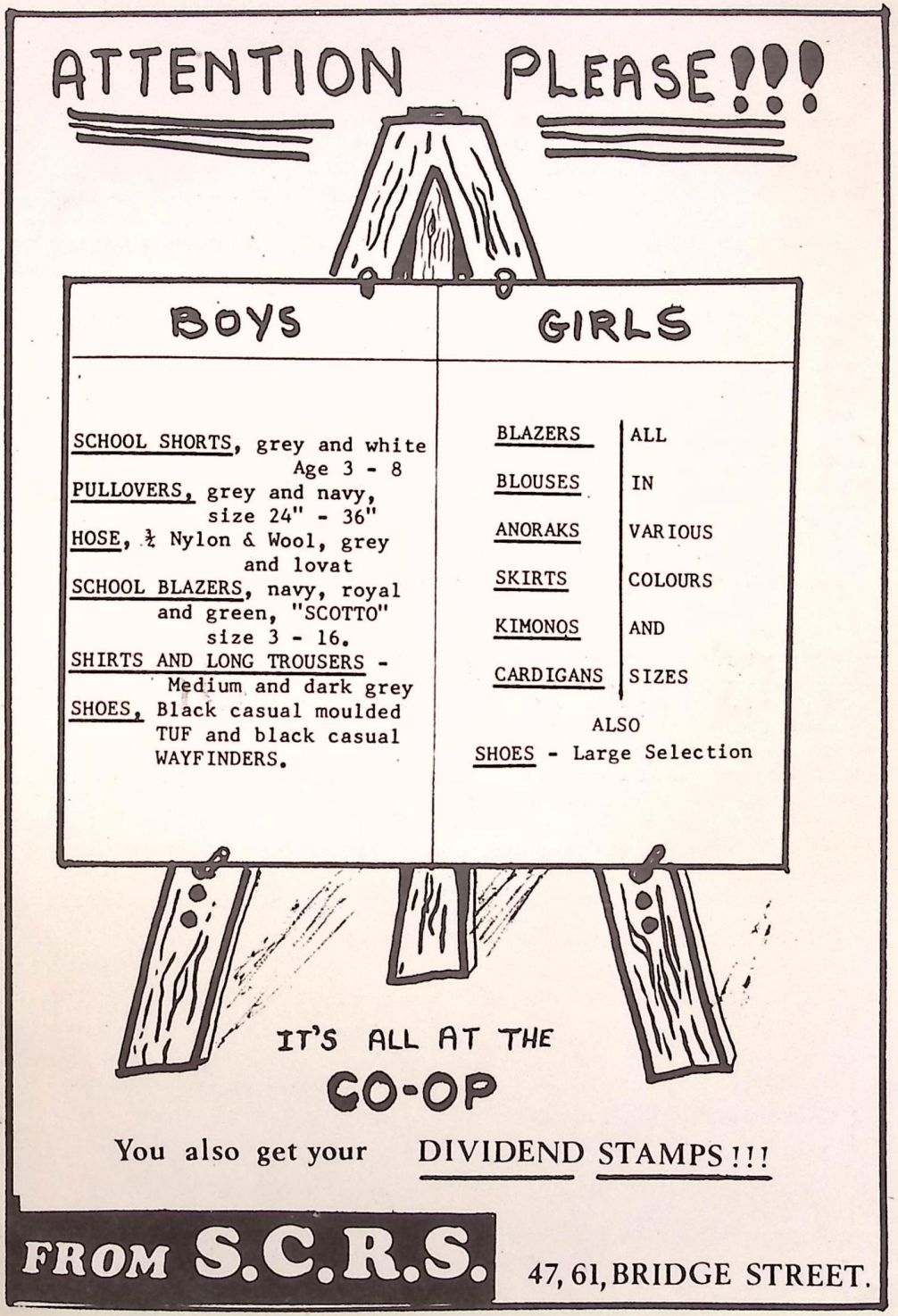
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HOLIDAY '69

PHOTOGRAPH COMPETITION

Photographs on any holiday theme may be submitted, provided they are taken during Summer, 1969.
All entries should be submitted to:

John Anderson, 258 Nicholson Street, C.5

not later than 1st September. Winning entries will be published in "The Gorbals View".

We are very grateful to GRATISPOOL who have generously offered prizes for this competition. Winner, runner-up and third best will each receive a voucher to the value of 4 guineas, 2 guineas and 1 guinea respectively.

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